

*City of*  
**Cambridge**



# POLICE DEPARTMENT



**Crime Report**

# 2004



**First Quarter: January 1-March 31**

Statistics, Descriptions and Analyses  
Covering Parts I and II Crimes

Reviews of Cambridge  
Neighborhoods

**CRIME ANALYSIS UNIT**

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Crime reports are now available online at [www.cambridgepolice.org](http://www.cambridgepolice.org)

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## Cambridge Police Department 2004 First Quarter Crime Report Neighborhood Profiles

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# Crimes Reported in Cambridge

January 1 to March 31, 2004

Crime	2001 1/1 to 3/31	2002 1/1 to 3/31	2003 1/1 to 3/31	2004 1/1 to 3/31	Change 03-04
<b>Murder</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Inc.</b>
<b>Rape</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Inc.</b>
Stranger	0	0	0	0	N.C.
Non-Stranger	3	4	1	0	Inc.
<b>Robbery</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>N.C.</b>
Commercial	9	13	15	20	+33%
Street	26	22	50	45	-10%
<b>Agg. Assault</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>-8%</b>
<b>Burglary</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>+25%</b>
Residential	89	166	65	104	+60%
Commercial	30	37	41	29	-29%
<b>Larceny</b>	<b>647</b>	<b>604</b>	<b>519</b>	<b>567</b>	<b>+9%</b>
Building	135	121	167	165	N.C.
Frm. Motor Vehicle	193	129	94	136	+45%
Person	109	131	81	68	-16%
Bicycle	10	23	9	18	+100%
Shoplifting	133	110	86	110	+28%
Residence	43	46	49	45	-8%
MV Plate	13	23	19	10	-47%
Services	7	7	7	6	Inc.
Misc.	4	14	7	9	Inc.
<b>Auto Theft</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>+28%</b>
<b>Total Violent</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>-5%</b>
<b>Total Prop.</b>	<b>866</b>	<b>894</b>	<b>697</b>	<b>792</b>	<b>+14%</b>
<b>Index Total</b>	<b>984</b>	<b>993</b>	<b>828</b>	<b>917</b>	<b>+11%</b>

## First Three Months in Review

During the First Quarter of 2004, there were 89 additional index crimes reported in Cambridge when compared with the same time period last year. The increase from 828 serious crimes recorded in the first three months of 2003 to 917 incidents for the same time period this year translates into an 11% rise in serious crime.

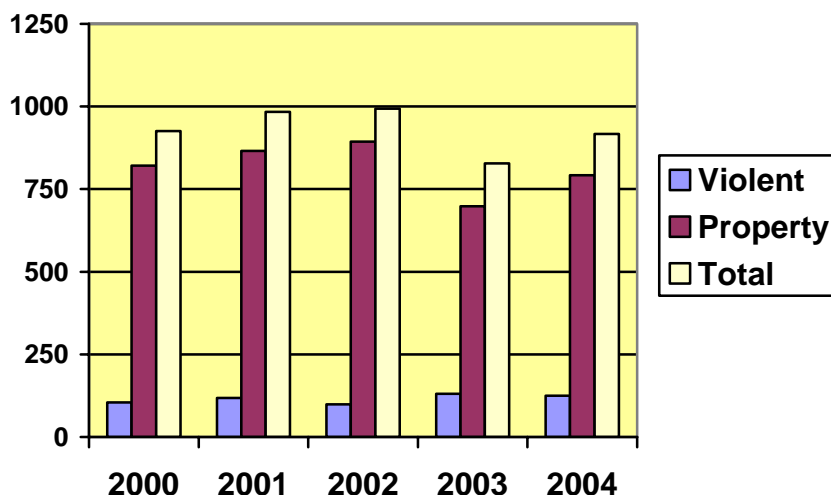
The 11% increase in the First Quarter of 2004 should be measured against the statistical comparisons of the first three months of 2003 being at a thirty-year low and the average number of index crimes for a First Quarter in Cambridge since 1996 registering 973 incidents.

Further analysis reveals that there was a 5% decline in violent crime with six fewer incidents registered between January and March of 2003 and the first three months of 2004.

The 14% increase in property crime was driven by sharp inclines in housebreak and larceny from motor vehicle totals. The increases in these two crimes should be tempered by the fact that the 2003 First Quarter crime totals for housebreaks and larceny from motor vehicles were at their lowest recorded points in twenty years.

For the tenth time since 1992, a murder was not recorded during the first quarter of the year in Cambridge.

## January-March Crime, 2000-2004



# **PART I CRIMES**

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- MURDER
- RAPE
- ROBBERY
- ASSAULT
- BURGLARY
- LARCENY
- AUTO THEFT

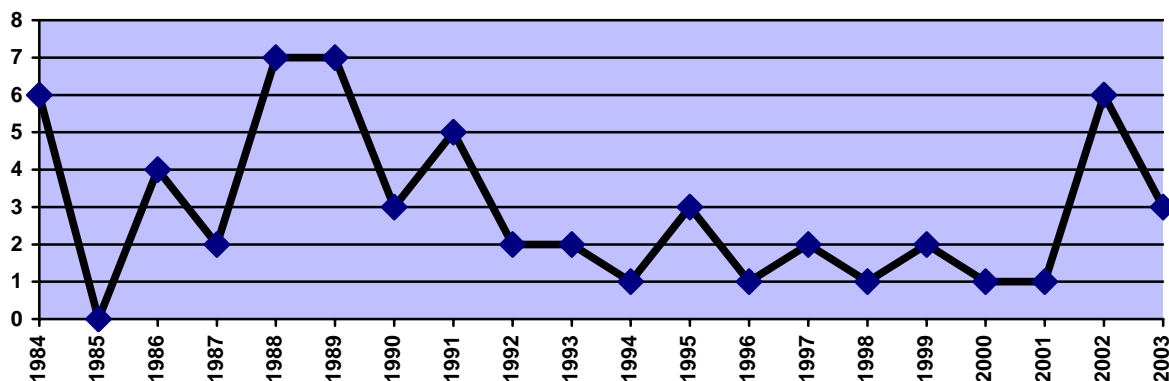


THE FOLLOWING IS AN OVERVIEW OF ALL PART I CRIMES LISTED ABOVE FOR  
THE CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

# MURDER

Murder and Non-negligent Manslaughter, as defined in the Uniform Crime Reporting Program, is the willful (non-negligent) killing of one human being by another. The classification of this offense, as for all other Crime Index Offenses, is based solely on police investigation, as opposed to the determination of a court, medical examiner, coroner, jury, or other judicial body. Not included in the count for this offense classification are deaths caused by negligence, suicide, or accident, justifiable homicides, or attempts to murder or assaults with the intent to murder, which are categorized as aggravated assaults.

**Twenty Year Annual Totals:  
Murder in Cambridge, 1984-2003**



## No murders reported in Cambridge during first quarter of 2004

### Characteristics of Murder in Cambridge

There were no murders recorded in Cambridge in the first quarter of 2004. The last murder registered in the City was the Toomey/DiBenedetto case on November 27, 2003. Arrests were made in all three of the murders in Cambridge in 2003.

Seven of the 32 murder cases reported in Cambridge since 1990 remain under investigation, including two of the six murders that occurred in 2002.

#### **Local News Update:**

##### **Current status of 2003 murder cases**

- Accused killer Anthony DiBenedetto may face life in prison with no chance of parole for the slaying of Mary Toomey, 75, in November. DiBenedetto, 46, was indicted by a grand jury at a closed proceeding Jan. 20<sup>th</sup>.
- Alexander Pring-Wilson, arrested for stabbing a local Cambridge teen last April, has filed a motion to suppress statements he made to police and friends the night of the incident, claiming he was suffering from a concussion and post-traumatic stress disorder. In a motion filed in Middlesex Superior Court on Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup>, defense attorney Jeffrey A. Denner and associates wrote that Pring-Wilson's contradicting statements the night of the incident "were not knowing, intelligent, or voluntary."
- Markendy Jean of Malden was identified as the prime suspect responsible for the shooting death of a man on June 8<sup>th</sup> near Porter Square. Jean turned himself over to the authorities in the early morning hours of July 3, 2003 and is awaiting trial.

### Murder Across the State & Nation

In 2002\*, the United States reported 16,204 murders, representing an increase of 1% from the 16,037 homicides recorded in 2001. Since the early 1990s, the murder total for the nation has been steadily decreasing. In 1992, there were a total of 23,760 homicides, which is 32% higher than the 2002 total. In 1998, the total was 5% higher than the 2002 total.

Nationwide, murder victims are 34% female and 77% male; Cambridge has a higher percentage of female murder victims (probably because of our relatively low number of gang-related homicides, in which the victims are usually male) than the national average. The average male murder victim is in his mid-20's and the average female murder victim is either in her early 20's or late 30's. Murder victims in Cambridge are consistent in age with the national trend. Male victims are usually in the mid-20's and female victims are usually close to 40 years old.

Massachusetts on the whole seemed to fare better than the national average, even though the state experienced a statistically nominal increase of 33 incidents (145 in 2001 to 178 in 2002). Boston reported the majority of the state's homicides (60 in 2002). Of the towns surrounding Cambridge (Watertown, Belmont, Arlington, and Somerville) only Somerville reported any homicides (3) in 2002.

*\*Statistics for 2003 are not yet available for other cities and towns.*

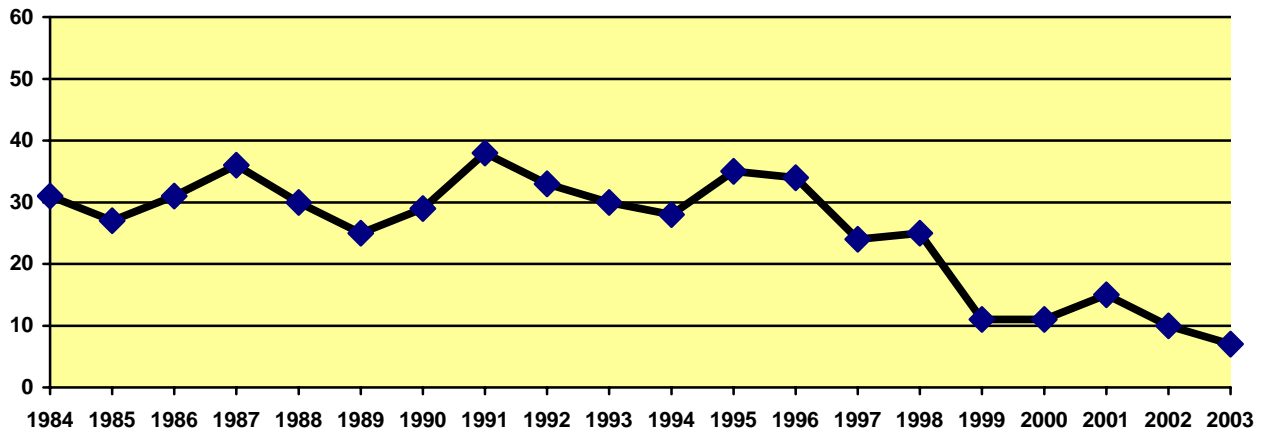
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# RAPE

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Forcible Rape, as defined by the Uniform Crime Reporting Program is the carnal knowledge of a female forcibly and against her will. Attempts to commit rape by force or threat of force, and assaults with the intent to commit rape, are also included; however, statutory rape (without force) and other sex offenses are excluded.

**Twenty Year Annual Totals:  
Rape in Cambridge, 1984-2003**



**1 reported in first quarter 2003 • 0 reported in first quarter 2004**

*No sexual crimes that fit the Uniform Crime reporting definition of Rape or Attempted Rape have been reported in 2004.* The Sexual Assault Unit reports that five of the seven cases in 2003 were cleared by arrest.

**A synopsis of other sexual related crime patterns in 2004 follows below:**

*Indecent assault* involves the unwanted touching of one person by another, generally in a private area or with sexual overtones. Incidents that show that the offender attempted or intended to rape the victim are coded as attempted rapes, *not* as indecent assaults. In addition, any force or injury would change the type of crime to an aggravated assault rather than an indecent assault.

In the fall of 2003, a pattern emerged in Harvard Square involving a male suspect who walked up to female victims and touched them in either the groin or breast area. This pattern came to an abrupt halt in late January when police arrested a Harvard custodian. Upon arrest, the man admitted to committing indecent assaults on at least 100 women in the area over a six-month period. So far, the man has been linked to at least five incidents reported to police.

A second indecent assault pattern emerged in Harvard Square in January and February. A white male in his late teens, pushing or riding a bicycle, passed victims and grabbed them in the breast, buttocks or groin area. At present, the three assaults by the bike-riding suspect remain under investigation, and there has not been an assault in this series since 2/12/04.

**SPECIAL ATTENTION GIVEN TO LIBRARIES**

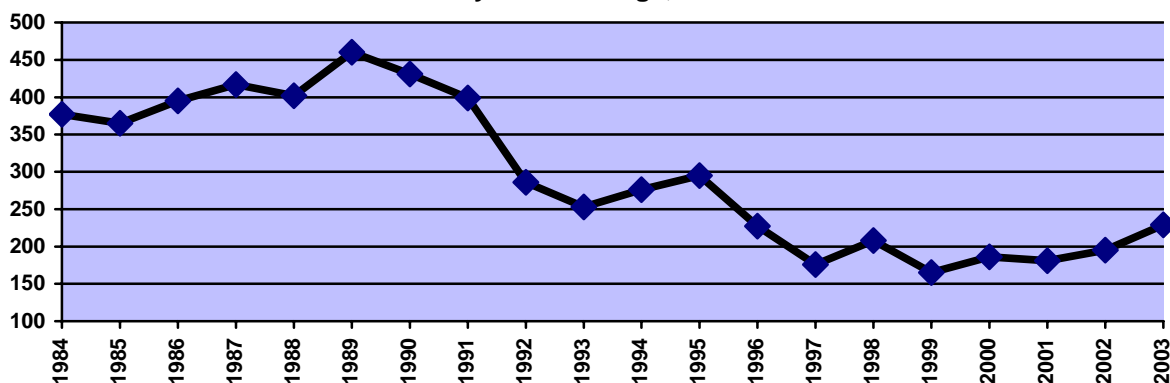
There have been three arrests of sex offenders in Cambridge Public Libraries since February. Officers are giving special attention to libraries particularly because so many children use these facilities.

# ROBBERY

Robbery is the taking or attempted taking of anything of value from the care, custody, or control of a person or persons by force or threat of force or violence and/or by putting the victim in fear. This crime includes muggings, purse snatchings, and bank hold-ups.

**65 reported in first quarter 2003 • 65 reported in first quarter 2004**

**Twenty Year Annual Totals:  
Robbery in Cambridge, 1984-2003**



Type	1 <sup>st</sup> Q. 2003	1 <sup>st</sup> Q. 2004	% Change
Commercial Robbery	15	20	33%
Street Robbery	50	45	-10%
<b>Total</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>n/a</b>

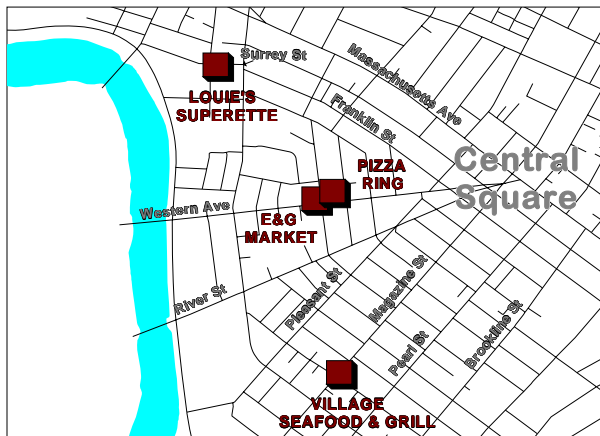
Overall, the total number of robberies in the first quarter did not change from 2003 to 2004; however, there was a 33% increase reported in commercial robberies and a 10% decrease reported in street robberies. The street robbery total of 45 incidents is well above the average of 34 incidents for the first quarter over the past five years. Another disturbing trend is the spike of commercial robberies at the start of the year. Between 1997 and 2001, Cambridge averaged three commercial robberies in the first quarter. The number of commercial robberies shot up to 13 in the first quarter of 2002, then to 15 in 2003 and 20 this year.

## COMMERCIAL ROBBERY

Seven of the twenty commercial robberies in 2004 were bank robberies. There was one arrest and another suspect was identified and has since been indicted. The bank robberies tend to occur on weekdays from 9:30-11:30am. Five robberies were executed by suspects handing the teller a note with demands written on it. A weapon was threatened or implied in three incidents. Convenience stores and gas stations also saw multiple robberies in the first quarter of 2004.

Geographic Breakdown of Commercial Robberies			
Business Districts	1 <sup>st</sup> Q. 2002	1 <sup>st</sup> Q. 2003	1 <sup>st</sup> Q. 2004
Galleria/East Cambridge	5	1	5
Kendall Square/MIT	0	2	0
Inman Square	0	2	0
Central Square	2	4	4
Cambridgeport/Riverside	0	0	1
Bay Square/Upper B.way	0	0	2
Harvard Square	2	1	3
1500-1900 Mass. Ave.	0	2	1
Porter Square	1	1	2
Alewife/West Cambridge	2	2	2





There were five commercial robberies in the period commencing on the night of December 30th, 2003 through January 27<sup>th</sup> 2004. Two of the robberies were at the E&G market on Western Ave. The Pizza Ring, Village Seafood, and Louie's Superette were also targeted. Suspect descriptions were of a black male, masked, using a semi-automatic handgun. These robberies were linked to a similar series in the 1300 block of Commonwealth Avenue in Allston. These incidents occurred commonly on weekday nights from 7:30pm-8:30pm. These cases remain under investigation.

## STREET ROBBERY

A street robbery pattern emerged in Area 4 and Cambridgeport. These two neighborhoods accounted for 22 of the 45 street robberies in the first quarter of 2004.

In Cambridgeport, there were six street robberies in less than a month within blocks of each other. This spree began in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter and has continued into the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter. Victims in the most recent incident were threatened with both a knife and a silver handgun, and the suspects fled into a waiting vehicle with two other suspects. This was the fourth robbery in this pattern where a handgun was threatened or implied.

There were also three robberies from female victims on Magazine St. by similar suspects, two with handguns. Suspects in three of these incidents either fled toward or down Pearl St. To date, one individual has been arrested in connection to at least one of these robberies.

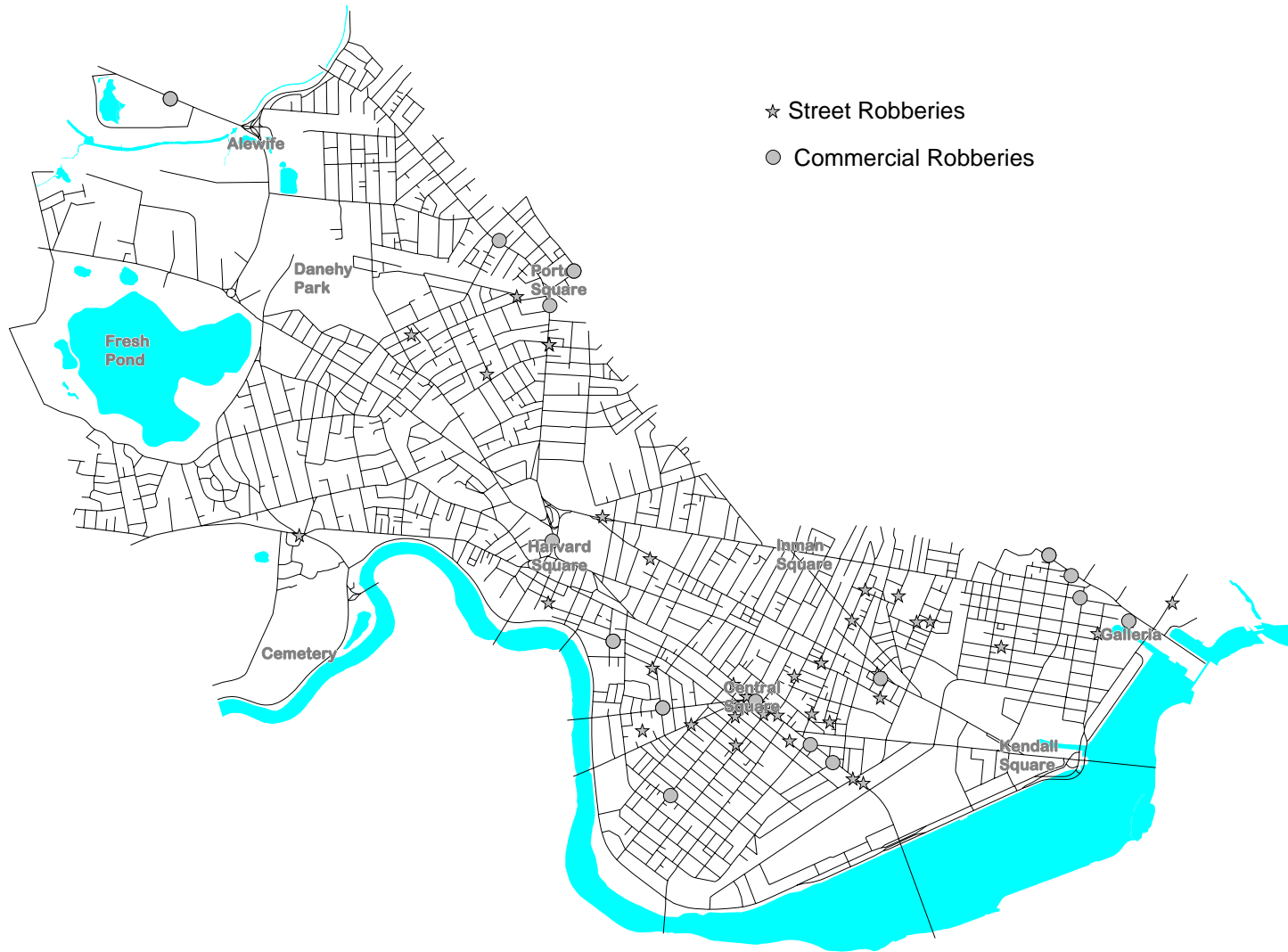
In Area 4, six of the 13 street robberies occurred during a two-week period in March. Two were purse snatchings where strongarm was used, and a gun was threatened in the four other incidents.

Officers responding to a street robbery in Mid-Cambridge arrested three individuals who have been tied to street robberies in January and February in Area 4 and Peabody. These defendants were found with a fake gun similar to that potentially used in multiple robberies.

Geographic Breakdown of Street Robberies in Cambridge			
Neighborhood	1 <sup>st</sup> Q. 2002	1 <sup>st</sup> Q. 2003	1 <sup>st</sup> Q. 2004
East Cambridge	4	3	4
MIT	0	0	1
Inman/Harrington	2	4	2
Area 4	7	7	13
Cambridgeport	1	10	9
Mid-Cambridge	2	4	3
Riverside	0	6	8
Agassiz	1	0	0
Peabody	0	6	3
West Cambridge	3	2	0
North Cambridge	2	7	1
Cambridge Highlands	0	0	0
Strawberry Hill	0	1	1



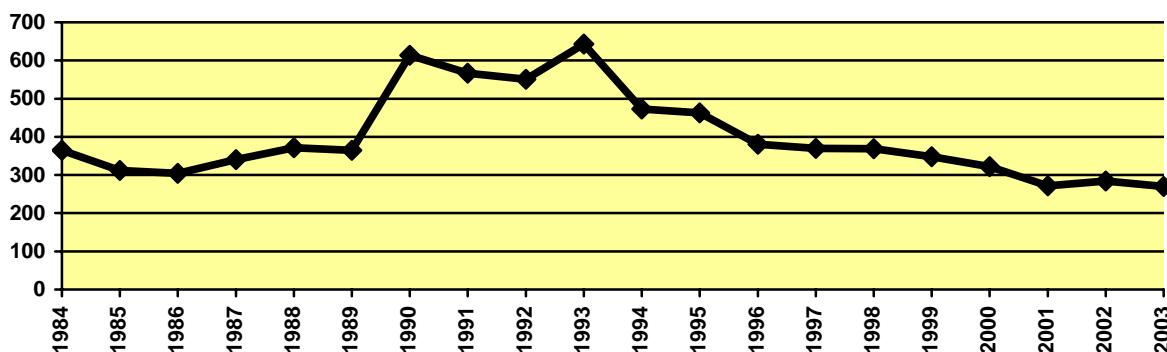
## Robberies Reported in Cambridge Between January 1, 2004 and March 31, 2004



# AGGRAVATED ASSAULT

Aggravated Assault describes an unlawful attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe or aggravated bodily injury. This type of assault is usually accompanied by the use of a weapon or by means likely to produce death or great bodily harm. Attempts are included.

Twenty Year Annual Totals:  
Aggravated Assault in Cambridge, 1984-2003



## 65 reported in first quarter 2003 • 60 reported in first quarter 2004

The number of aggravated assaults reported in Cambridge has remained relatively steady over the past three years, but is down dramatically from the early 1990's. As is common, the majority of aggravated assaults occurred between people who knew each other, such as acquaintances or family members (65% of total reports). The most commonly used weapons in these scenarios were hands and/or feet as victims complained of being punched or kicked by assailants. Handguns or knives were threatened or used in seven and 11 incidents, respectively. To date, 27 of these incidents (45%) resulted in an arrest.

### Relationships between offender and victim

Relationship	Total
Stranger	18
Acquaintance	16
Spouse	7
Ex-Romantic Partner	5
Romantic Partner	4
Co-Worker/Employee	3
Unknown	3
Parent/Child	1
Neighbor	1
Sibling	1
Schoolmate	1
Total	60

Of the assaults committed by strangers, three were incidents that occurred in bars in the early morning and three involved traffic or parking issues. Patterns are not often detected in these types of incidents because they are usually not premeditated but rather spontaneously result from arguments in bars, in traffic or between homeless individuals. Five of the stranger assaults resulted in an arrest.

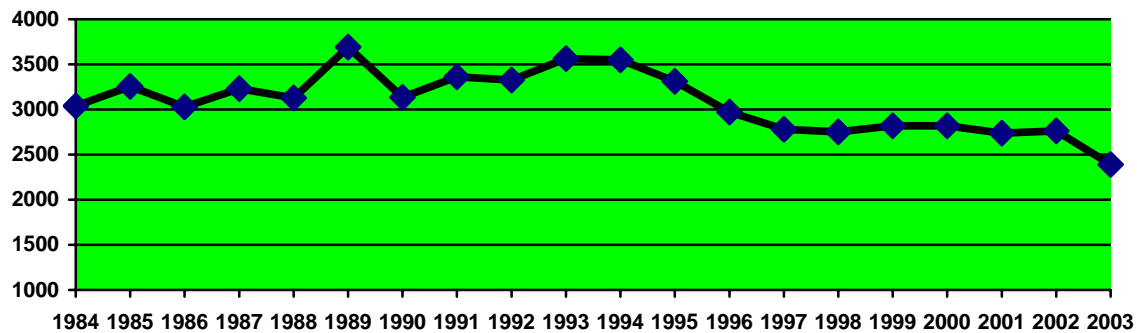
The domestic assaults most commonly occurred between individuals who were currently or previously in a romantic relationship. None of the 21 domestic assaults reported were repeat incidents within this quarter, however, in many of the cases, the victims and suspects have been involved in multiple incidents in the past of varying nature. In 2003, Cambridge reported seven incidents that were categorized as juvenile or gang related from January through March. Only three incidents were reported during the same time period in 2004. One incident involved a young male shooting at other young teens with a BB gun; the second incident involved a teen trying to incite a fight

by threatening a victim with a knife; the third incident involved a victim being beaten after confronting a group of teens who were throwing trash on the ground. An arrest was made in two of these three incidents.

# LARCENY

Larceny is the unlawful taking, carrying, leading, or riding away of property from the possession of another. It includes crimes such as shoplifting, pick-pocketing, thefts from motor vehicles, thefts of auto parts and accessories, horse thefts, and bicycle thefts, in which no use of force, violence, fraud, or trespass occurs. In the Uniform Crime Reporting Program, this crime category does not include embezzlement, "con" games, forgery, or worthless checks. Motor vehicle theft is also excluded from this category, as it is a separate index crime offense.

**Twenty Year Annual Totals:  
Larceny in Cambridge, 1984-2003**

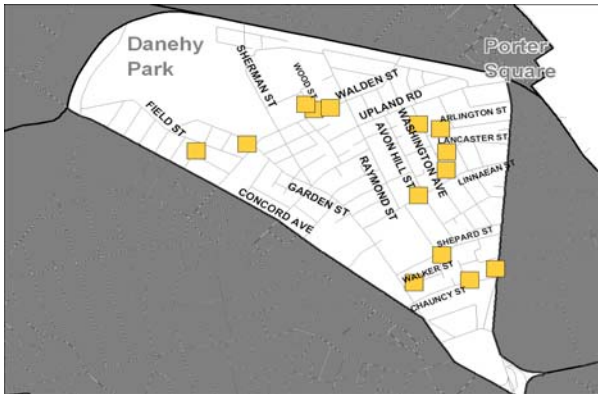


**520 reported in first quarter 2003 • 567 reported in first quarter 2004**

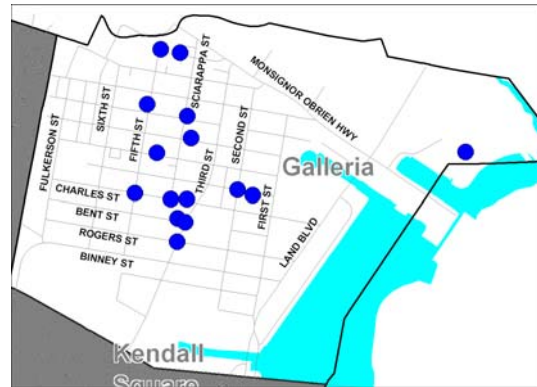
Type	1 <sup>st</sup> Q. 2003	1 <sup>st</sup> Q. 2004
Larceny from a Building	166	165
Larceny from Motor Vehicle	95	136
Larceny of a Bicycle	10	18
Larceny from a Person	81	68
Shoplifting	86	110
Larceny from a Residence	49	45
Larceny of a License Plate	19	10
Larceny of Services	7	6
Miscellaneous Larceny	7	9
<b>Total Larcenies</b>	<b>520</b>	<b>567</b>

The total number of larcenies in Cambridge increased by 9% in the first three months of 2004 compared to this time last year. This was fueled by increases in four larceny categories, with the largest increase (43%) reported in larcenies from motor vehicles (LMV's). As with other target crimes, this increase in LMV's should be tempered by the fact that the numbers from 2003 are well below average for this time of year. Peabody, East Cambridge and Cambridgeport have emerged as potential hotspots for LMV's as we look forward to the summer months. The maps below show the hotspots from the first quarter of 2004, which remain future potential hotspot areas.

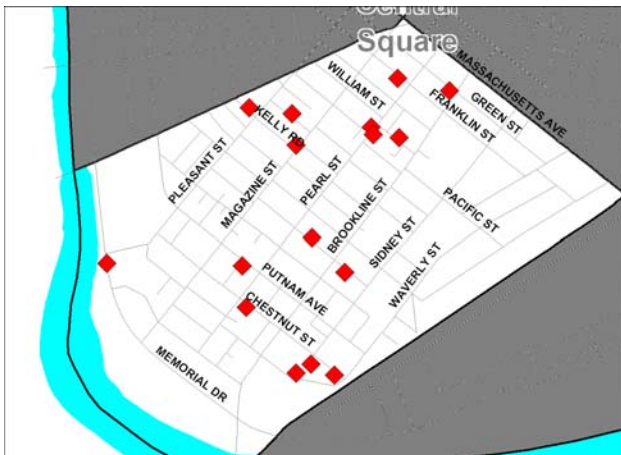
### Peabody Larcenies from Motor Vehicles



### East Cambridge Larcenies from Motor Vehicles



### Cambridgeport Larcenies from Motor Vehicles



### Larcenies from Persons

A decrease of 16% was recorded in larcenies from person this quarter. However, several patterns emerged throughout the city. Pickpockets are beginning to emerge on weekend afternoons in Harvard Square, targeting females dining in restaurants and cafes in the afternoon and early evening hours. Handbags and wallets are easy targets when left unattended under tables or hanging on backs of chairs.

Additionally, there were 2 pickpockets reported in March from victims in hospital elevators at Mt.

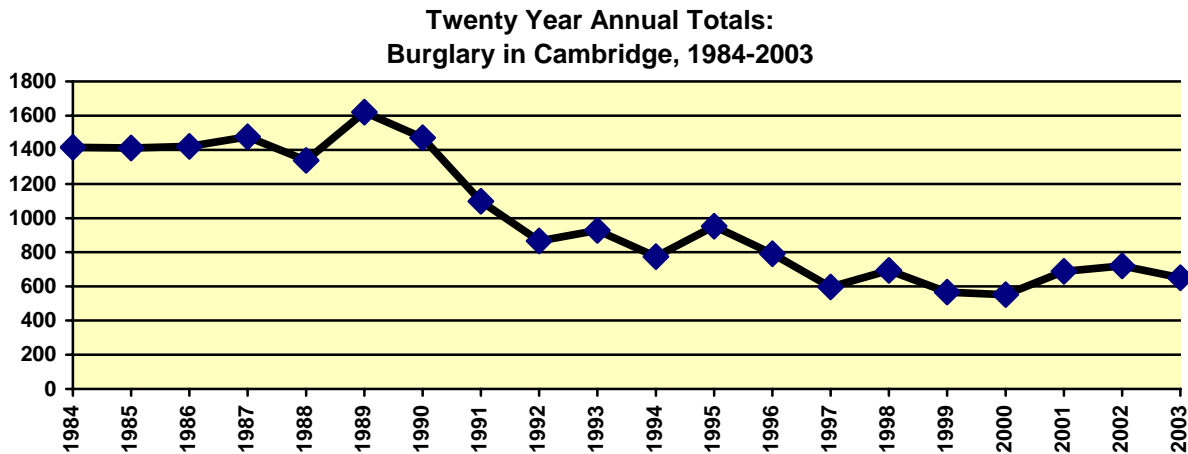
Auburn and Cambridge Hospitals. An elderly victim reported that she was in an elevator in Mt. Auburn Hospital at 11:00am when suspects entered the elevator with her; the first suspect distracted the victim by pretending to have his foot caught in the door, and the second suspect removed the victim's wallet from her purse. In the second incident, the victim was waiting for an elevator in Cambridge Hospital at 9:30am when a suspect reached into her handbag and took her wallet. This is a very unusual type of pickpocketing scenario for Cambridge and there have been no further incidents of this nature reported since.

*Larcenies from persons are generally easy to prevent. Remember to always keep your belongings within your control. Do not leave purses on the floor, on the back of your chair, or otherwise unattended. Do not leave wallets or cell phones in the pockets of hanging coats.*

Another trend that has been recorded is larcenies from area hospitals. Thirteen incidents were reported overall; six of those occurred at Mt. Auburn Hospital. These thefts targeted unattended belongings in lockers or behind desks.

# BURGLARY

Burglary describes the unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or theft. The use of force to gain entry is not required to classify an offense as burglary. Burglary attempts are included in the total.



**106 reported in first quarter 2003 • 133 reported in first quarter 2004**

Burglary Type	2003	2004	% Change
Commercial Burglary	41	29	-29%
Residential Burglary	65	104	60%
Total	106	133	25%

While commercial burglary in the first quarter in Cambridge has decreased by almost 30%, housebreaks have increased by 60%. The increase in the number of housebreaks should be considered in light of the fact that the 2003 first quarter total of 65 incidents was the lowest number of housebreaks in over thirty years.

## COMMERCIAL BURGLARY

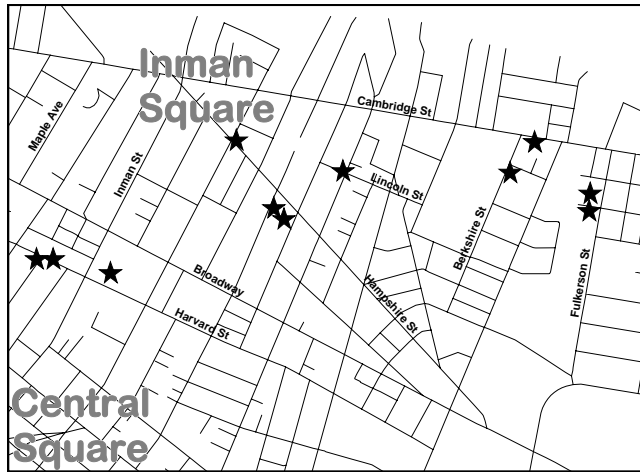
There were no major commercial burglary patterns in Cambridge this quarter, contributing to the decline in commercial burglary reported overall. The only potential pattern identified included sporadic Sunday night breaks into offices in the 600 block of Central Square. This pattern is classified as still active.

ESTABLISHMENT TYPE	1st Q. 2003	1st Q. 2004
Misc. Establishments	12	10
Industrial/Construction	0	1
Business Offices	10	12
Church	2	1
Clothing Store	1	0
Bar/Restaurant	12	3
Auto Sales/Service	0	0
School	2	2
Assisted Living	0	0
Other	2	0

Geographic Breakdown of Commercial Burglaries in Cambridge*			
Business District	1st Q. 2002	1st Q. 2003	1st Q. 2004
Galleria/East Cambridge	5	4	0
Kendall Square/MIT	0	4	1
Inman Square	5	11	3
Central Square	7	4	11
Cambridgeport/Riverside	0	1	1
Bay Square/Upper Broadway	2	0	2
Harvard Square	7	8	3
1500-1900 Mass. Ave.	1	0	3
Porter Square	3	5	2
Alewife/West Cambridge	6	4	3

## RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY: HOUSEBREAKS

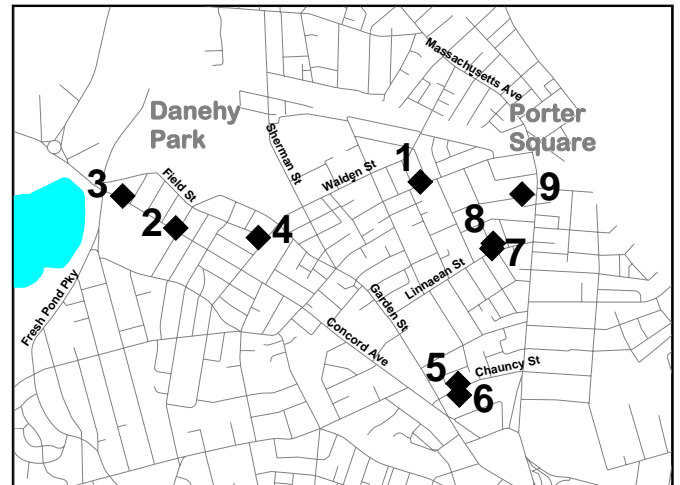
As noted previously, residential burglaries (also called “housebreaks”) increased by 60% in the first three months of 2004. There was a cluster of housebreaks in January and February between Inman and Central Squares. Between January 5<sup>th</sup> -7<sup>th</sup>, there were 11 housebreaks in the area highlighted on the map (below, left).



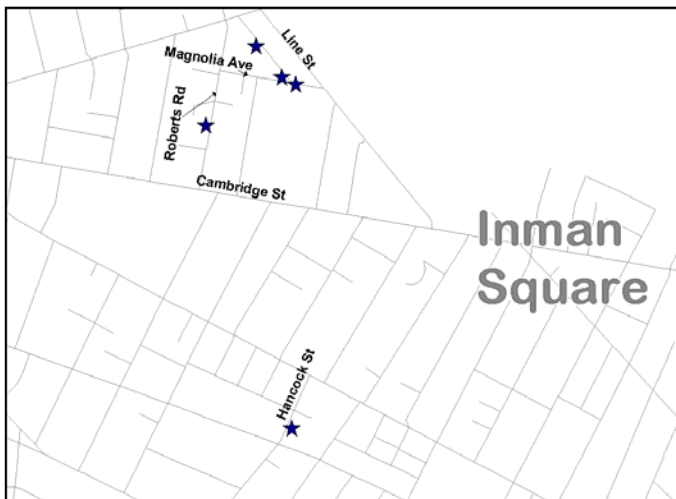
Although the incidents were scattered, some of them appeared to be related.

Incidents were concentrated on weekdays, between 11:30am and 2:00pm. Multiple breaks have been reported on Thorndike Street, Harvard Street, and Norfolk Street. Entry was most often gained by the prying of the front door to the apartment; many of the apartments had been ransacked, and laptops were the most popular targets. This pattern has since dissipated.

Housebreaks then began to heat up in Peabody, with increased activity between February and March. Fifteen housebreaks were reported here in this time period, nine of them in the five weeks between the beginning of February through the beginning of March. Three of the breaks were unsuccessful attempts. Of the successful breaks, the most common methods of entry included prying open or breaking the locks of front doors.



A final housebreak pattern identified during March involved a series of daytime housebreaks in the Mid-Cambridge neighborhood. However, this pattern appears to have dissipated with no incidents reported since March 18<sup>th</sup>. There are no ongoing housebreak patterns identified at the present time.



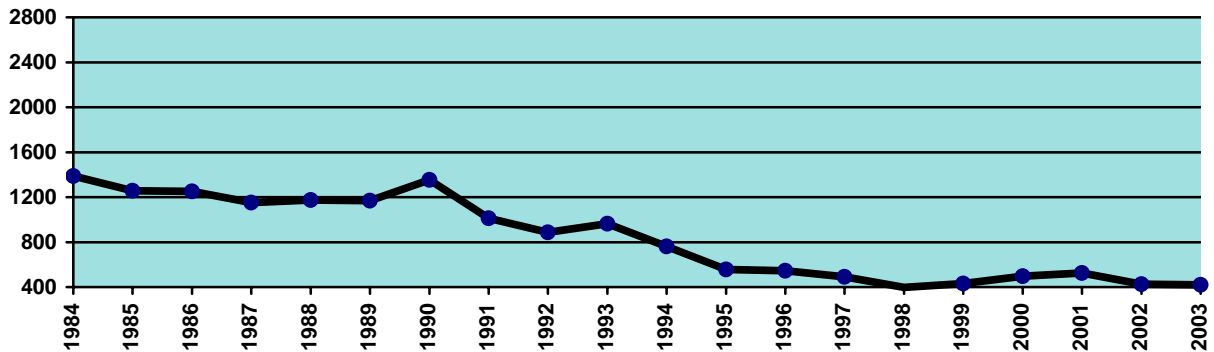
Neighborhood	1st Q. 2002	1st Q. 2003	1st Q. 2004
East Cambridge	13	8	5
MIT	0	0	1
Inman/Harrington	14	1	6
Area 4	13	10	14
Cambridgeport	26	8	11
Mid-Cambridge	26	12	17
Riverside	14	6	6
Agassiz	13	2	8
Peabody	16	9	15
West Cambridge	11	2	7
North Cambridge	18	4	13
Cambridge Highlands	0	0	0
Strawberry Hill	2	3	1



# AUTO THEFT

*Defined as the theft or attempted theft of a motor vehicle, this offense category includes the theft of automobiles, trucks, buses, motorcycles, motor scooters, and snowmobiles. This definition excludes the taking of a motor vehicle for temporary use by persons having lawful access.*

**Twenty Year Annual Totals:  
Auto Theft in Cambridge, 1984 to 2003**



**77 reported in first quarter 2003 • 92 reported in first quarter 2004**

NEIGHBORHOOD	2003 1 <sup>st</sup> Q	2004 1 <sup>st</sup> Q	CHANGE 2003-4	% OF TOTAL
East Cambridge	10	18	+80.0%	19.6%
M.I.T. Area	1	3	*Inc.	3.3%
Inman/Harrington	14	13	-7.0%	14.1%
Area 4	8	6	-25.0%	6.5%
Cambridgeport	10	16	+60.0%	17.4%
Mid-Cambridge	8	11	+37.5%	12.0%
Riverside	2	1	*Inc.	1.1%
Agassiz	4	0	n/a	0
Peabody	4	8	+100%	8.7%
West Cambridge	7	5	-28.6%	5.4%
North Cambridge	7	6	-14.3%	6.5%
Cambridge Highlands	1	2	*Inc.	2.2%
Strawberry Hill	1	3	*Inc.	3.3%

\*Inc.=percentages not calculated for numbers so small to prevent a statistically misleading percentage.

Citywide in the first quarter of 2004, there was a 19% increase in auto thefts relative to last year. There have been no notable patterns during these first three months of the year. Honda Civics and Accords, consistently among the nation's most stolen autos, led Cambridge during this period. The Toyota Camry, which is usually second behind the Civic, dropped to fourth. Incidents were distributed evenly throughout the week, and were most common from 7:00-10:00pm. The top five neighborhoods for theft, in order, are East Cambridge, Cambridgeport, Inman/Harrington, Peabody, and Mid-Cambridge. Fifty-nine percent of the stolen vehicles were recovered; 36% of those were recovered in Boston and 29% in Cambridge.

East Cambridge experienced the largest increase (80%), going from 10 last year to 18 this year. Eighth Street, Education Street and Museum Way each saw multiple incidents in this neighborhood. A high number of incidents reported occurred between the hours of 6:00-9:00pm.

Cambridgeport also reported six more incidents than the same time frame last year. River Street and Putnam Avenue were the hotspots in the neighborhood.

Inman/Harrington, a typical hotspot, dropped to third among neighborhoods. Cambridge Street, which was the focal point of auto thefts for the first quarter in 2003, saw only one incident this year in Inman/Harrington and zero in East Cambridge.

Agassiz enjoyed the greatest decrease among neighborhoods, falling from four in the first quarter last year to zero this year (the only neighborhood with no auto thefts).



# **PART II CRIMES**

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- **DRUG OFFENSES**
- **FRAUD &  
FORGERY**
- **VANDALISM**
- **SEX CRIMES**
- **OTHER CRIMES**



THE FOLLOWING IS AN OVERVIEW OF ALL PART II CRIMES LISTED ABOVE FOR THE  
CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

# NARCOTICS

*Narcotics includes all incidents in which the police made an arrest, complaint, or warrant for the possession or distribution of illegal narcotics. Narcotics statistics do not include all instances of narcotics use or distribution; they only reflect those cases that are known to the police.*

**26 reported in first quarter 2003 • 28 reported in first quarter 2004**

## Geographic Breakdown of Drug Incidents

Neighborhood	1 <sup>st</sup> Q. 2002	1 <sup>st</sup> Q. 2003	1 <sup>st</sup> Q. 2004
East Cambridge	2	7	2
MIT	0	0	0
Inman/Harrington	0	3	6
Area 4	5	5	5
Cambridgeport	2	2	5
Mid-Cambridge	0	2	1
Riverside	5	1	3
Agassiz	1	0	0
Peabody	0	0	2
West Cambridge	1	1	0
North Cambridge	2	2	3
Cambridge Highlands	1	1	1
Strawberry Hill	2	2	0

The number of incidents involving drug sales/trafficking or possession increased slightly in the first quarter of 2003. Increases in Cambridgeport and Inman/Harrington were the major reasons for this increase. Three of the drug arrests were subsequent to arrests for other crimes, including driving offenses, trespassing and a warrant arrest.

Drug activity throughout the City continues to be suppressed due to the combined forces of citizens, patrol officers, and the Special Investigations Unit (SIU). The observations of citizens and patrol officers are valuable in the fight against the presence of narcotics in our community. The Special Investigations Unit, through surveillance and investigation, works to combat the proliferation of organized narcotic activities. At least 13 arrests can be attributed to SIU surveillance and investigations in the first quarter of 2004.

Twelve of the 28 incidents were for possession of narcotics, 11 of the incidents were for possession with intent to distribute, and the remaining five incidents involved either drug sale or trafficking. Twelve incidents involved marijuana; three involved heroin; 10 involved cocaine or crack cocaine; and three involved prescription drugs.

## Know Your Narcotics

**Note:** The following information was gathered from the following sources:

<http://www.drugfreeamerica.com>; Massachusetts Drug Threat Assessment, published by the National Drug Intelligence Center of the U.S. Department of Justice; <http://www.erowid.org>; <http://www.gazettenet.com/12192002/news/2941.htm>; and [http://www.Townonline.com/Lincoln/news/local\\_regional/lin\\_newljdrugs12242002.htm](http://www.Townonline.com/Lincoln/news/local_regional/lin_newljdrugs12242002.htm).

## Drug Tip Hotline

*The Special Investigations Unit employs an anonymous Drug Tip Hotline to gain intelligence information from the community. The Unit can be reached by calling **617-349-3359**. Generally, you will be greeted by a taped message instructing you to leave very detailed information. **You do not have to provide any personal information and all information is held in confidence.***

**Heroin** (AKA: dope, smack, horse, Jude, brown sugar, junk, black tar)

Heroin is a highly addictive drug derived from morphine, which is obtained from the opium poppy. It is a "downer" that affects the brain's pleasure systems and interferes with the ability to feel pain. Heroin can be used in many ways, depending on user preference and drug purity. Heroin is fast acting, especially when injected or smoked. Injected heroin reaches the brain in 15 to 30 seconds; smoked heroin in 7 seconds. The high from heroin is experienced as intense pleasure. Once a person begins using heroin, they quickly develop a tolerance to the drug and need more and more to get the same effects.

Epidemiologists agree that heroin is the most under-reported drug in terms of usage and that any usage statistics are unreliable. Estimates range from 428,000 past-year users (National Household Survey, 1995) to 600,000 past week heroin users (Office of National Drug Control Policy). On the other hand, some experts

estimate that as many as 2 to 3 million people in the United States use heroin recreationally. In 1980 the average bag of street heroin was 4% pure; the average bag today is 40% pure and can be as pure as 70%. Increased purity results in snorting and smoking rather than injecting. Heroin use in the state has risen sharply over the last decade, particularly among young men ages 18-24, who are buying cheaper and purer forms of the drug.

***Cocaine & Crack Cocaine*** (AKA: coke, snow, nose candy, flake, blow, big C, lady white, snowbirds, Scar face special, (crack only) rock, freebase, Manhattan marble)

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Cocaine is a drug extracted from the leaves of the coca plant. It is a potent brain stimulant and one of the most powerfully addictive drugs. Cocaine is distributed on the street in two main forms: cocaine hydrochloride is a white crystalline powder that can be snorted or dissolved in water and injected; and "crack" is cocaine hydrochloride that has been processed with ammonia or sodium bicarbonate (baking soda) and water into a freebase cocaine. These chips, chunks, or rocks can be smoked.

Cocaine may be used occasionally, daily, or in a variety of compulsive, repeated-use "binges." Regardless of how it is used, cocaine is highly addictive. Crack cocaine and injected cocaine reach the brain quickly and bring an intense and immediate high. Snorted cocaine produces a high more slowly.

Cocaine can produce a surge in energy, a feeling of intense pleasure, and increased confidence. The effects of powder cocaine last about 20 minutes, while the effects of "crack" last about 12 minutes. Heavy use of cocaine may produce hallucinations, paranoia, aggression, insomnia, and depression. Cocaine's effects are short lived, and once the drug leaves the brain, the user experiences a "coke crash" that includes depression, irritability, and fatigue; and long term effects include heart problems, respiratory problems, sleep and appetite problems, and harm to developing children if used by a pregnant woman.

## **Designer Drugs**

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Designer drugs are a class of drugs often associated with "raves." Designer drugs are modifications of restricted drugs, made by underground chemists in order to create street drugs that are not specifically listed as controlled (i.e., restricted) substances by the Drug Enforcement Administration. Changing the molecular structure of an existing drug or drugs to create a new substance, like Ecstasy, creates a designer drug. The street names of designer drugs vary according to time, place, and manufacturer. Because unlicensed and untrained amateurs create designer drugs in clandestine laboratories, they can be extremely dangerous. In many cases, the designer drugs are more dangerous and more potent than the original drug.

The pharmaceutical drug, fentanyl, was originally created for anesthesia during surgeries. Designer drugs derived from fentanyl are extremely potent and have a strong potential for overdose. They have been associated with hundreds of unintentional deaths in the United States. They are also short lived, about 30 to 90 minutes. Increasingly the drug is sniffed or smoked, in part to avoid getting HIV via infected needles. The respiratory paralysis that may occur is so sudden after drug administration that often victims who injected the drug are found with the needle still in their arm.

## **OxyContin**

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OxyContin (oxycodone HCl controlled-release) is the brand name for an opioid analgesic - a narcotic. Oxycodone is the narcotic ingredient found in Percocet (oxycodone and acetaminophen) and Percodan (oxycodone and aspirin). OxyContin is used to treat pain that is associated with arthritis, lower back conditions, injuries, and cancer. OxyContin is available by prescription only. It is approved for the treatment of moderate to severe pain that requires treatment for more than a few days.

Oxycontin abusers remove the sustained-release coating to get a rush of euphoria similar to heroin. They chew the tabs...crush them for snorting...or boil the powder for injection. The most serious risk associated with opioids, including OxyContin, is respiratory depression. Common opioid side effects are constipation,

nausea, sedation, dizziness, vomiting, headache, dry mouth, sweating, and weakness. OxyContin is oxycodone in a sustained release form and that is why the tablet should not be broken. Taking broken, chewed, or crushed tablets could lead to the rapid release and absorption of a potentially toxic dose of oxycodone.

In 2001 and 2002, there was a surge in robberies of pharmacies carrying OxyContin in Massachusetts. There is so much money to make with OxyContin, that stealing and selling the drug has become irresistible to dealers and addicts who can get their hands on it. As a result, many pharmacies in the area have stopped stocking the drug in order to deter robbers.

# MALICIOUS DESTRUCTION

*Vandalism, or malicious destruction of property, includes tire-slashing, window-smashing, spray-painting, and myriad other crimes in which someone's property is willfully and maliciously damaged. It is the most commonly reported crime in Cambridge, yet we suspect that vandalism is one of the most underreported crimes; residents and businesses frequently ignore "minor" incidents of vandalism and graffiti.*

**210 reported in first quarter 2003 • 173 reported in first quarter 2004**

Neighborhood	1 <sup>st</sup> Q. 2003	1 <sup>st</sup> Q. 2004	Destruction Act	1 <sup>st</sup> Q. 2003	1 <sup>st</sup> Q. 2004
East Cambridge	39	18	Car Window	53	35
MIT	7	4	Car (Other)	43	34
Inman/Harrington	17	14	Graffiti	8	18
Area 4	12	14	Pinstriping	15	12
Cambridgeport	38	29	Tire Slashing	28	37
Mid-Cambridge	14	15	Business Window	15	11
Riverside	13	10	Business (Other)	7	8
Agassiz	3	1	Attempted Theft	9	5
Peabody	10	19	House Window	15	4
West Cambridge	21	10	Residence (Other)	11	5
North Cambridge	26	20	Revenge	6	4
Highlands	7	17	Shop Damage	0	0
Strawberry Hill	3	2			

There were 173 incidents of malicious destruction, or "vandalism" in the first quarter of 2004. This was a noticeable decrease from the 210 in the first quarter in 2003. Sharp drop-offs in East Cambridge, West Cambridge and North Cambridge contributed to this decrease. Among categories of vandalism, the only large increases were in graffiti and tire slashing. There was a small graffiti spree in early January, perhaps attributable to New Year's celebrations gone too far. Eight of the graffiti incidents took place on weekends. Locations on Richdale Avenue and Bolton Street became hotspots for tagging. Ten of the thirteen neighborhoods reported at least one incident of graffiti, but none reported more than three. Eleven incidents of tire slashing were reported New Year's Day in Fresh Pond Mall lots, explaining the increase in the number of this destruction act. Increased officer presence around the Mall after this date may have deterred other sprees. New Year's sprees were also reported on Dudley Street, and there was a Valentine's Day spree on Brookline Pl. Sixteen of the tire slashing incidents occurred from around 7:00-11:00pm. Drastic reductions of vandalism to autos around the Cambridge-side Galleria were a major reason why East Cambridge saw its malicious destruction incidents reduced more than 50% from last year. For example, only one incident was reported on Rogers Street, a hotspot for this crime in 2003. Acts of car window destruction dropped from 53

in the first quarter last year to 35 in the first quarter of 2004, partially due to the cooling down of hotspots on Vassar Street, Concord Avenue, and aforementioned locations such as Rogers Street and the Fresh Pond Mall parking lots. Vandalism of house windows also decreased significantly from 2003-04. The Cambridgeport and Riverside neighborhoods reported a combined 10 incidents in 2003, but those neighborhoods combined for only one report this year.

# FRAUD

*The FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting System does not include fraud, false pretenses, forgery, embezzlement, and confidence games among larceny. Yet in many cases, fraud is a much more serious crime than theft. Victims of check forgery and "con" games stand to lose thousands of dollars. Often added to this loss is the personal humiliation that accompanies being "duped" by a "con man." The confidence game crook, a particularly crafty breed of criminal who has no qualms with deceiving his victims face-to-face, expects (often correctly) that his victim's embarrassment will deter him or her from reporting the crime to the police.*

**118 reported in first quarter 2003 • 129 reported in first quarter 2004**

In the first quarter of 2004, there were 129 incidents of fraud and forgery reported in Cambridge, compared with 118 during the first three months of 2003. Specific crimes categorized as fraud are reviewed below.

- **Counterfeiting:** During the first quarter of 2004, there were four incidents of counterfeiting. Three of them were small incidents, but one man was arrested on Brattle Street with a total of 57 counterfeit \$100 notes, which he had been using to buy small items to get real currency as change.

- **Application:** Two incidents of forged applications were reported, both at stores in the Cambridgeside Galleria. Individuals applied for jobs or opened accounts at the Best Buy and Kay Jewelers stores, but the suspect in the incident at Best Buy fled before his application could go through.

- **Bad Check:** The writing of checks on insufficient funds or closed accounts. The Cambridge Police took six reports for this crime in the first quarter of 2004, one of which resulted in an arrest at the Central Square Post Office.

Crime	1 <sup>st</sup> Q. 2003	1 <sup>st</sup> Q. 2004
<b>Counterfeiting</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Forgery/Uttering</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>93</b>
Application	1	2
Bad Check	10	6
Forged Check	16	20
ATM/Credit Card	64	60
Miscellaneous	2	5
<b>Embezzlement</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Con Games</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>8</b>
Big Carrot	2	3
Utility Impostor	1	2
Pigeon Drop	1	0
Charity	0	0
Psychic	1	0
Miscellaneous	1	3
<b>Identity Theft</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>24</b>

- **Forged Check:** There were 20 forged checks reported in the first quarter. A large number occurred around the Harvard Square area.

- **ATM/Credit Card Fraud:** There were 60 reports of ATM/credit card fraud in the first quarter of 2004, making it easily the most common fraud in Cambridge. This crime is becoming more popular with the proliferation of "check cards." The Galleria is a hotspot for this crime.

- **Embezzlement:** An employee takes advantage of his position for financial gain, diverting company funds to himself. This crime usually involves juvenile store clerks. Retail stores in Harvard Square and the Galleria are most affected by this crime. There were no incidents of embezzlement in the first quarter.

- **“Con” Games:** There were eight swindles, con games or flim-flams in the first three months of 2004. One individual who was arrested in 2004 may be responsible for several incidents regarding the resale of plasma televisions around the Galleria mall.

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# SEX OFFENSES

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*Sex Offenses refers to six crimes of a sexual nature: prostitution and solicitation, indecent assault, indecent exposure, peeping and spying, annoying & accosting, and obscene telephone calls. Rape is not include because it is a Part I crime.*

**16 reported in first quarter 2003 • 24 reported in first quarter 2004**

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## ANNOYING & ACCOSTING

**6 reported in first quarter 2003 • 3 reported in first quarter 2004**

Annoying and accosting a member of the opposite sex is a form of criminal harassment. Generally, it involves a man repeatedly following, shouting, making off-color suggestions, hooting, repeatedly asking for a date, or otherwise harassing a woman. It happens most often on the street and in the workplace. Each report involves an individual situation; the crime is not subject to geographic patterns. Three incidents were reported in the first quarter. One man followed his victims into the women’s restroom while speaking to them in a lewd manner. In another incident, a man rubbed his crotch in front of a victim while she read at the library.

## INDECENT ASSAULT

**2 reported in first quarter 2003 • 11 reported in first quarter 2004**

Indecent assault is the unwanted touching of a person by another in a private area or with sexual overtones. In most cases the victim knows the offender. Any incident where force or injury occurs would be considered an aggravated assault rather than an indecent assault. Eleven incidents were reported in the first quarter of 2004, including a spree in Harvard Square which resulted in the arrest of Geremias Cruz Ramos. Ramos later confessed to over 100 such assaults. There was another spree in January in Harvard Square; the suspect is a male who drove past his victims on a bike. Several of the 11 incidents were domestic.

## PEEPING & SPYING

**2 reported in first quarter 2003 • 3 reported in first quarter 2004**

Peeping and spying occurs most often when offenders will peer through windows of houses or apartments, generally at night. Two incidents were reported during the first three months of 2003. The incidents were unrelated in nature, occurring in January and March. All the incidents this year have involved men peeking through the windows of women’s residences. In a March incident, a 12 year-old boy is the suspect.

## PROSTITUTION & SOLICITING SEX FOR A FEE

**0 reported in first quarter 2003 • 0 reported in first quarter 2004**

Prostitution is commonly associated with “streetwalking,” (prostitutes working the streets) but also includes escort services, where a “john” (client) will call and a prostitute will be sent to the “john’s” location. No

prostitution arrests have been recorded in the first quarters of 2003 or 2004. In the 1990's, the Special Investigations Unit proactively fought the visible "streetwalking" problem, nearly eradicating this problem in Cambridge.

## INDECENT EXPOSURE

**1 reported in first quarter 2003 • 7 reported in first quarter 2004**

Indecent exposure is the offensive display of one's body in public, especially the genitals; often done in a suggestive manner. The main offenders are vagrants or inebriated individuals urinating in public. There has been a large decrease in this type of crime, but there were seven in the first quarter this year. Most of these were "flasher" incidents. Two of the reports resulted in arrests, including the arrest of nude protesters on March 1 in the Pit by the Harvard MBTA station.

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# OTHER PART II CRIMES

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*Under the Uniform Crime Reporting Program, any actual crime not recorded as a Part I Crime (Murder, Rape, Robbery, Aggravated Assault, Burglary, Larceny and Auto Theft) is a Part II Crime. The relative infrequency of patterns and trends among these crimes discourages detailed analysis.*

**348 reported in first quarter 2003 • 325 reported in first quarter 2004**

Crime	1 <sup>st</sup> Q 2003	1 <sup>st</sup> Q 2004
Disorderly Conduct	9	11
Drinking in Public	9	3
Extortion/Blackmail	0	0
Hit & Run Accidents	198	167
Kidnapping	1	0
Liquor Violations	0	2
OUI	10	9
Threatening	65	92
Traffic Arrests	36	24
Trespassing	16	11
Weapons Violations	4	6

### Disorderly Conduct

Police make an arrest for this crime when a person disrupts the peace enough to pose a danger. Examples include bar disputes, homeless altercations, and public shouting of profanity and threats. Almost all of the 11 incidents (10 of which resulted in arrests) occurred near Central and Harvard Squares. Four of those arrested were homeless persons.

### Drinking in Public

Most of these incidents occurred around Central Square. Other locations where this activity is monitored include: Harvard, Inman, and the Porter Square T-area. These areas are targeted due to the nightlife they attract. Two of the three arrests were of homeless individuals.

### Extortion/Blackmail

A rare crime, involving an offender taking money from a victim by threatening to do something other than use violence. There have been no reports of this crime in 2004.

### Hit and Run Accidents

In the first quarter of 2004 there was a 16% decrease in hit and run incidents as compared to the first quarter of 2003. About two thirds of incidents involved parked cars being hit by unknown suspects. Seven incidents involved pedestrians being struck, up from four a year ago.

### Kidnapping

There were no incidents of kidnapping in the first quarter.



**Liquor Violations**

Liquor violations generally involve minors drinking, though it can also include the sale of liquor to a minor, or the unlicensed sale of liquor. There were two incidents of liquor violations in the first quarter, including the February sale of alcohol to minors at Louie's Superette in Harvard Square that led to a twelve-day suspension of the convenience store's liquor license.

**Operating Under the Influence (OUI)**

Out of the nine OUI arrests that took place during the first quarter of 2004, five occurred during the hours of 10pm to 4am. Special attention is given to Harvard, Porter and Central Squares during these high activity hours.

**Threatening**

A self-explanatory crime that often arises in domestic disputes, arguments between acquaintances and co-workers, school fights, and in other environments.

**Traffic Arrests**

The average traffic stop for speeding, running a red light, or related offenses results in only a warning or citation. Some traffic offenses, however, are arrestable crimes: driving to endanger, driving after suspension or revocation, possession of a counterfeit inspection sticker, and attaching false license plates are all examples. Such arrests are often made during routine traffic stops, after the police officer learns of the driver's suspension or revocation. Traffic arrests have decreased significantly over the last two years because the courts have requested that summonses be issued for license suspension/ revocation offenses.

**Trespassing**

Arrests for trespassing are generally made at establishments where the offender has been previously warned not to tread. Often, the same offender is arrested multiple times. Most of these incidents occurred around Central Square. Other locations where this activity is monitored include: Harvard, Inman, and the Porter Square T-area. These areas are targeted due to the nightlife they attract. Again, homeless persons are often arrested for this crime; there were two arrests of individuals who had been kicked out of the CASPAR shelter at 240 Albany Street

**Weapons Violations**

Most of these incidents involve arrested persons in possession of concealed weapons. In the first quarter, there were three reports of gunshots fired, including one incident at the Holiday Inn Express on Monsignor O'Brien Highway, which resulted in an arrest. Two of the three arrests for this crime were initiated by warrant arrests. There were six incidents in total.

## **FIRST QUARTER REPORT 2004**

# **NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILES**

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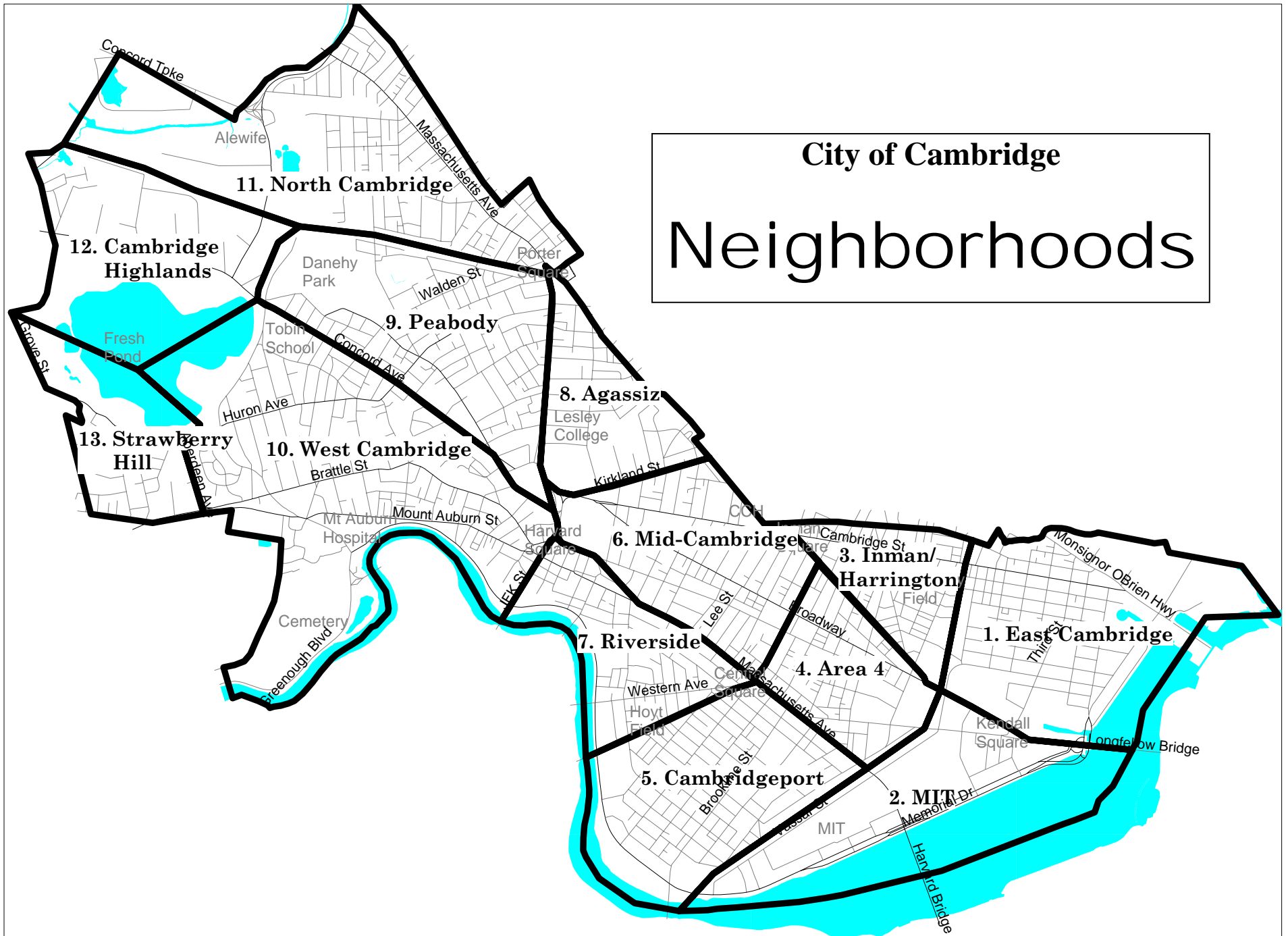
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- MIT
- INMAN/HARRINGTON
- AREA 4
- CAMBRIDGEPORT
- MID-CAMBRIDGE
- RIVERSIDE
- AGASSIZ
- PEABODY
- WEST CAMBRIDGE
- NORTH CAMBRIDGE
- CAMBRIDGE
- HIGHLANDS
- STRAWBERRY HILL



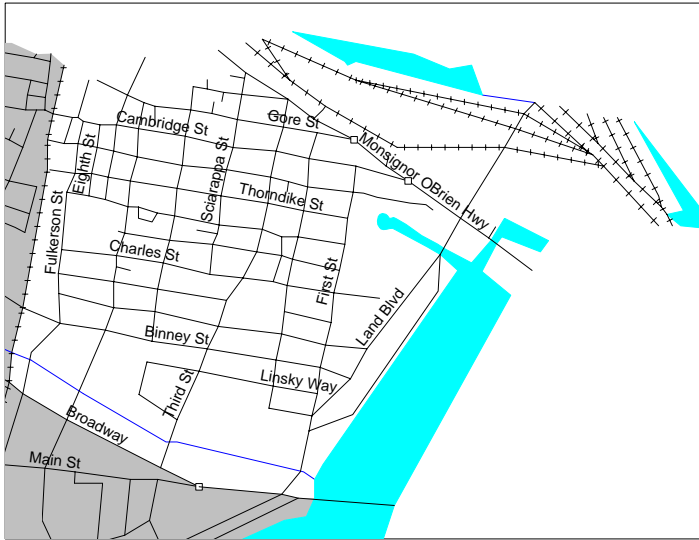
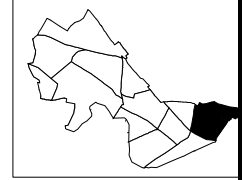
**THE FOLLOWING IS AN OVERVIEW OF TARGET CRIMES FOR  
CAMBRIDGE NEIGHBORHOODS**

# City of Cambridge

## Neighborhoods



# NEIGHBORHOOD 1 EAST CAMBRIDGE



**BOUNDARIES:** bordered by the Charles River, Main Street, Broadway, the B&A Railroad, and the Somerville border

**POPULATION:** 7,294 residents  
2,726 households

**AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD INCOME:** \$30,281

Neighborhood #1 lies within the patrol boundaries of Car 1 (2 officers) and Car 1R (1 officer). Also included are walking routes 1A, 1B, and 1C.

## COMPARISON OF 1<sup>ST</sup> Q TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 2000 - 2004

CRIME	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Housebreaks	7	14	13	8	5
Street Robbery	5	3	4	3	4
Auto Theft	17	10	17	10	18
Larceny from MVs	6	15	18	19	18
Malicious Destruction	17	26	40	39	18
Drug Arrests	3	0	2	7	2

### 2004 FIRST QUARTER IN REVIEW

Reflecting the city trend, Hondas were by far the targeted vehicles for **auto theft** in East Cambridge. Thirteen of the eighteen stolen autos have been recovered as of this report. • Three of the five **housebreaks** occurred in early January in a small spree on Thorndike Street, in which two males used a crow bar to break into apartments in the late morning and early afternoon hours on weekdays. • There were no **street robbery** patterns; all four of the incidents involved groups of 2-4 males approaching a victim walking alone, usually in the evening hours. • **Drug charges** were added in one incident when two men were found in possession of cocaine in a holding cell at the Middlesex County Courthouse. • Automobiles were targeted in ten of the 18 reports of **malicious destruction**. Two of these cars were parked at the Cambridgeside Galleria. Multiple incidents were also reported on Fifth and Charles Streets. • Stereos and CD's were the most commonly targeted items in **larcenies from motor vehicles**. Car windows were broken to gain access in eight of the 18 reports. Incidents were most likely to occur on Mondays and on streets surrounding the Galleria.

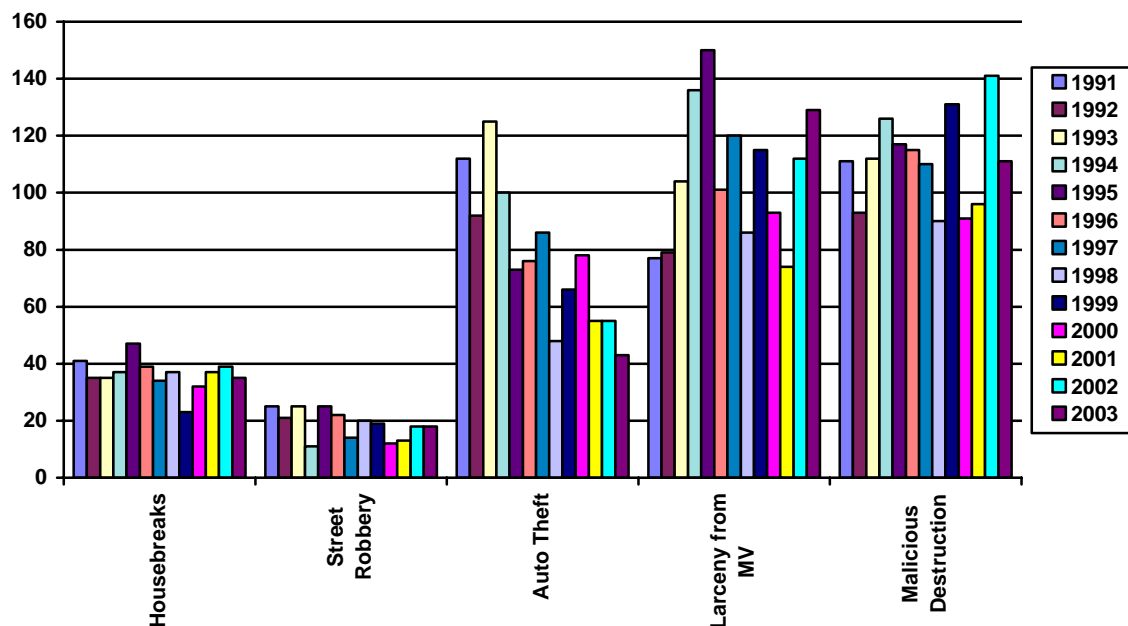
ANNUAL AVERAGE FOR EAST CAMBRIDGE TARGET CRIMES					
<i>Crime</i>	<i>1981-1990</i>	<i>Rank '81-'90*</i>	<i>1991-2002</i>	<i>Rank '91-'02*</i>	<i>Rank 2003*</i>
Housebreaks	38	10	36	9	8
Street Robbery	10	11	19	4	5
Auto Theft	156	2	80	2	4
Larceny from MVs	121	5	105	2	1
Malicious Destruction	118	5	115	1	2

\*Ranks are out of 13 neighborhoods, with 1 indicating the highest crime rate and 13 the lowest.

## Neighborhood Profile And Historical Synopsis

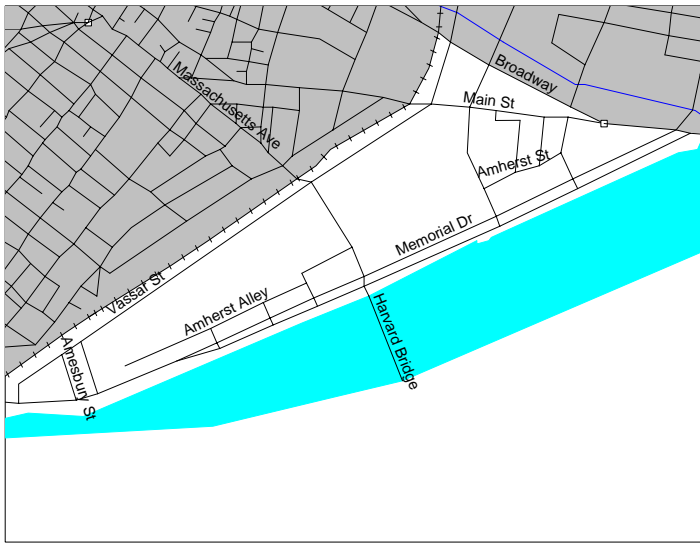
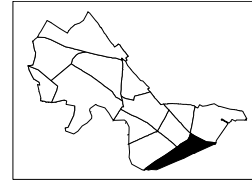
With the booming Cambridgeside Galleria and Cambridge Center, East Cambridge may be the most heavily trafficked commercial region in the city. It has a smaller than average residential population. Other features of the neighborhood include the Lechmere MBTA station, the Kennedy-Longfellow Elementary School, and the Middlesex County Courthouse.

- **Street robberies** ballooned with the opening of the Cambridgeside Galleria in 1991, but have abated in recent years. Most of these are pack or bullyboy robberies committed by and against juveniles. Other robbery patterns—predatory in nature—sometimes appear on Cambridge Street near the B&A Railroad.
- The motor vehicle-related crimes of **auto theft**, **larceny from motor vehicles**, and **malicious destruction of property** occur at the highest rates here of anywhere in Cambridge due to the level of commercial parking around the Cambridgeside Galleria, along Cambridge Street and in the vicinity of Cambridge Center.
- **Assaults, threats** and related crimes between plaintiffs, victims, or complainants and defendants sometimes occur in the area of the Middlesex County Courthouse.



# NEIGHBORHOOD 2

## M.I.T. AREA



**BOUNDARIES:** bounded by Main Street, Broadway, the B&A Railroad, and the Charles River

**POPULATION:** 5,486 residents  
794 households

**AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD INCOME:**  
\$26,397

Neighborhood #2 is encompassed within the patrol boundaries of Car 1 and Car 3 (2 officer cars). M.I.T. has its own police force that patrols this area.

### COMPARISON OF 1<sup>ST</sup> Q TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 2000 - 2004

CRIME	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Housebreaks	0	0	0	0	1
Street Robbery	1	0	0	0	1
Auto Theft	3	3	3	1	3
Larceny from MVs	7	8	6	2	1
Malicious Destruction	4	2	3	7	4
Drug Arrests	2	0	1	0	0

### 2004 FIRST QUARTER IN REVIEW

The sole **larceny from motor vehicle** was an attempted theft on Vassar Street, which was formerly an auto theft hotspot. • The **street robbery** occurred at the ATM at Vassar Street and Mass Avenue. The victim was robbed of his wallet at gunpoint. The wallet was later recovered when the suspect got in an auto accident in Boston. • Car windows were smashed in three of the four acts of **malicious destruction of property** in this neighborhood. Two related incidents happened in late January on Cambridge Center. • The three reports of **auto theft** were of a Honda, a Dodge Stratus, and a Porsche; the latter was the only of its make stolen in Cambridge during the first quarter. Only one incident occurred on the aforementioned former hotspot of Vassar Street. The others were on Mass Avenue and Amherst Street • The **housebreak** resulted in the arrest of a man who had broken into an MIT dormitory and removed a backpack from a student's room. The defendant had been previously arrested on MIT property. • There were no **drug arrests** in this neighborhood during the first quarter.

ANNUAL AVERAGE FOR M.I.T. AREA TARGET CRIMES					
Crime	1981-1990	Rank '81-'90*	1991-2002	Rank '91-'02*	Rank 2003*
Housebreaks	19	11	3	13	13
Street Robbery	11	10	5	11	9
Auto Theft	102	7	48	6	11
Larceny from MVs	56	10	45	10	11
Malicious Destruction	47	10	25	12	12

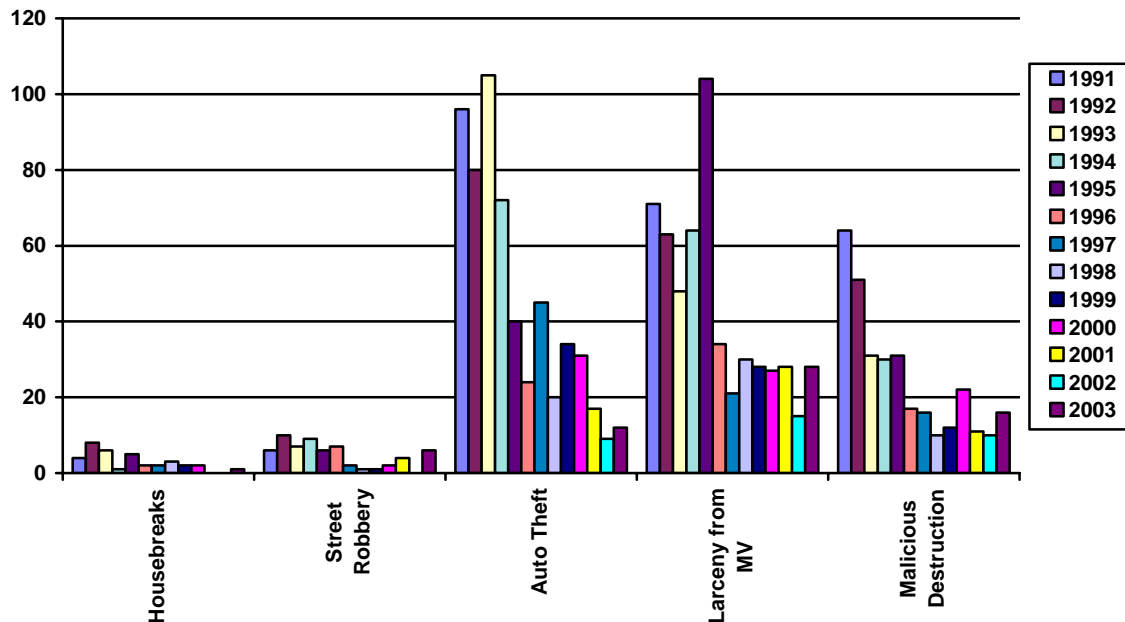
\*Ranks are out of 13 neighborhoods, with 1 indicating the highest crime rate and 13 the lowest.

## NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE AND HISTORICAL SYNOPSIS

The Massachusetts Institute of Technology is the dominant venue in the MIT Neighborhood given that M.I.T. property envelops most of the neighborhood. Its large student population—many of whom are foreign—is alluring to local criminals, who often consider students unsuspecting prey.

*The Massachusetts Institute of Technology has its own police force, which reports its own crime statistics to the Uniform Crime Reporting system. Statistics contained in this profile – and in the rest of the report – do not include crimes on M.I.T. property except for arrests and incidents in which Cambridge Police Officers participated.*

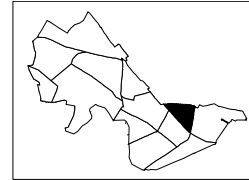
- The large number of automobiles parked each day on Vassar Street, Ames Street, Amherst Street, and at the Hyatt Regency Hotel have traditionally accounted for high numbers of **auto theft** and **larcenies from motor vehicles**.
- **Street robbery** patterns have sometimes emerged at the intersection of Massachusetts Avenue and Vassar Street, and outside the Fleet ATM on Main Street. These are often predatory, targeting college students that are walking in the areas late at night. Over the course of 20 years, however, M.I.T. has maintained a street robbery level well below the other neighborhoods.
- Bicycles parked at racks on sidewalks all around M.I.T. have been targeted by thieves in large numbers. M.I.T. and Cambridge Police make several arrests per year for **larcenies of bicycles**.





# NEIGHBORHOOD 3

## INMAN/HARRINGTON



**BOUNDARIES:** bounded by the B&A Railroad, Hampshire Street, and the Somerville line.

**POPULATION:** 7,345 residents  
2,734 households

**AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD INCOME:**  
\$30,231

Neighborhood #3 is encompassed in the patrol boundaries of Car 1 (2 officers) and Car 3R (1 officer). Also included within this area are walking routes 3A, 3B, and 3C.

### COMPARISON OF 1<sup>ST</sup> Q TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 2000 - 2004

CRIME	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Housebreaks	3	7	14	1	6
Street Robbery	5	1	2	4	2
Auto Theft	12	7	11	14	13
Larceny from MVs	7	10	5	7	8
Malicious Destruction	7	18	7	17	14
Drug Arrests	0	4	0	3	6

#### 2004 FIRST QUARTER IN REVIEW

All of the reported **housebreaks** took place in January and March on Monday and Wednesdays. One of the incidents involved breaks into two apartments at the same address, in which jewelry was the targeted property. • One of the reported **street robberies** was a domestic situation. The first street robbery in this neighborhood involved a masked suspect accosting a victim with a knife, and taking a CD player from the victim's pockets. • **Auto thefts** have remained stable in the first quarter of recent years. There were no thefts during the month of March, and eight of the vehicles have been recovered. • Weekend days are the most active for **larcenies from motor vehicle**. Two of the reported incidents involved the theft of Toyota parts, a hood and a directional light. Other targeted property included stereos, stereo equipment, cash, and tools. • **Malicious destruction of property** was concentrated on the weekend days. On a Sunday in late January, three cars were targeted for keying and other damage. • The majority of **drug arrests** in this neighborhood were the result of Special Investigations Unit efforts. Most of the arrests were for marijuana, but the most significant arrest was of a Cambridge resident in possession of \$14,000 worth of the painkiller Oxycontin.

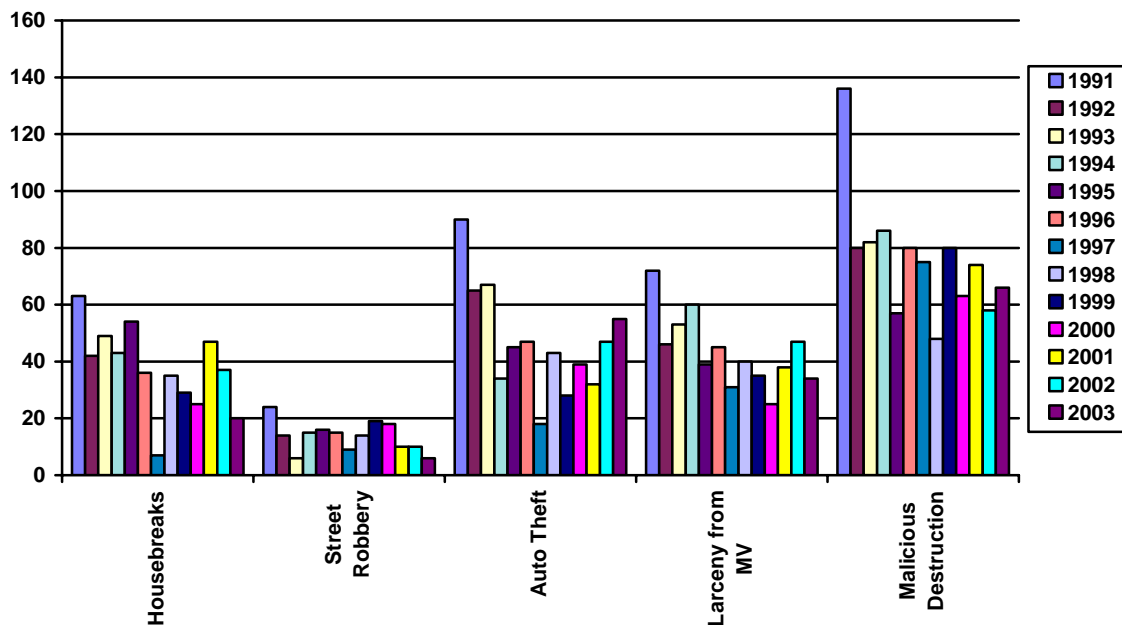
ANNUAL AVERAGE FOR INMAN/HARRINGTON AREA TARGET CRIMES					
Crime	1981-1990	Rank '81-'90*	1991-2002	Rank '91-'02*	Rank 2003*
Housebreaks	57	9	40	7	10
Street Robbery	14	8	14	7	10
Auto Theft	89	10	45	7	3
Larceny from MVs	66	9	45	10	8
Malicious Destruction	94	7	80	6	9

\*Ranks are out of 13 neighborhoods, with 1 indicating the highest crime rate and 13 the lowest.

## NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE AND HISTORICAL SYNOPSIS

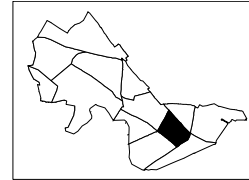
The Inman Square/Harrington neighborhood's population ranks at the median for the city; consequently, so do many of its crimes. Inman/Harrington is also marked by a number of commercial establishments along Cambridge Street, in Inman Square, and around One Kendall Square.

- The number of Housebreaks in Inman/Harrington steadily declined in the early 1990's and is again on the decline in the past few years. Cambridge Street, Hampshire Street, Elm Street, Columbia Street, and Willow Street have been "hot spots" for this crime. The density of housebreaks increases in the lower half of the neighborhood.
- **Auto theft** declined sharply in the 1990's but has seen a rise in recent years. The related crime of **larceny from motor vehicles**, on the other hand, is lower in only three other neighborhoods.
- The Harrington School and Donnelly Field generate a share of juvenile related crime, such as vandalism, fights, and petty larcenies.
- Drug sales are sometimes a problem on Windsor Street, Webster Street, and areas around Donnelly Field.



# NEIGHBORHOOD 4

## AREA 4



**BOUNDARIES:** the B&A Railroad, Massachusetts Avenue, Prospect Street, and Hampshire Street

**POPULATION:** 7,263 residents  
2,523 households

**AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD INCOME:**  
\$24,665

Neighborhood #4 is encompassed in the patrol boundaries of Car 2 (2 officers), and Car 4R (1 officer). Also included are walking routes 4A, 4B, and 4C, and Central 10.

### COMPARISON OF 1<sup>ST</sup> Q TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 2000 - 2004

CRIME	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Housebreaks	9	15	13	10	14
Street Robbery	7	6	7	7	13
Auto Theft	15	17	10	8	6
Larceny from MVs	7	39	9	6	16
Malicious Destruction	30	24	23	12	14
Drug Arrests	4	2	6	5	5

### 2004 FIRST QUARTER IN REVIEW

**Street robbery** patterns emerged in mid-February and late March. Women walking alone at night were the victims in most instances. Mid-February saw four incidents, three of which involved firearms. The most common time frame for robberies was 10:00pm-1:00am. • Most of the **drug arrests** were for possession. Two of the incidents involved heroin, and two others crack cocaine. SIU investigations and stakeouts accounted for three of the arrests. • Most of the **housebreaks** occurred in the middle of the day during the workweek, especially on Wednesdays. Shoving or forcing open the front door was the most common means of entry. There were multiple incidents on Norfolk Street and Windsor Street. Six of the fourteen breaks occurred during one week in January. • Two of the **auto thefts** occurred on Essex Street. Three of the five autos stolen were Hondas. • **Larcenies from motor vehicles** were focused around the area between Main Street and Harvard Street east of Central Square. Columbia Street and Harvard Street each reported multiple incidents. • **Malicious destruction** incidents were clustered around some of the neighborhood's main streets: Windsor, Prospect and School. Six of the incidents occurred from 11:00pm-2:00am. There were five reports of car windows damaged and three tire slashings.

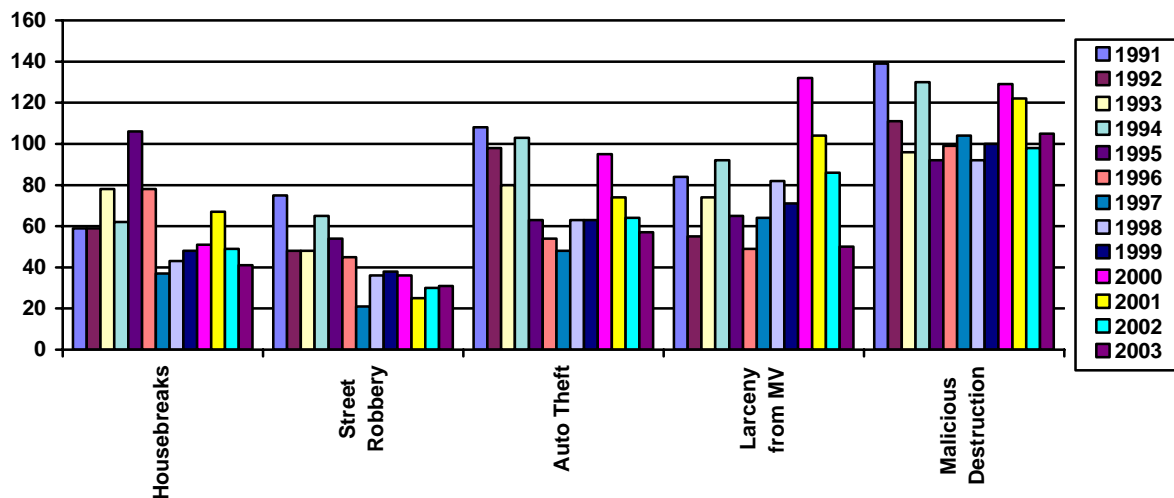
ANNUAL AVERAGE FOR AREA 4 TARGET CRIMES					
<i>Crime</i>	<i>1981-1990</i>	<i>Rank '81-'90*</i>	<i>1991-2002</i>	<i>Rank '91-'02*</i>	<i>Rank 2003*</i>
Housebreaks	101	5	59	4	6
Street Robbery	75	1	47	1	2
Auto Theft	147	3	77	3	2
Larceny from MVs	134	2	80	4	6
Malicious Destruction	131	3	109	4	4

\*Ranks are out of 13 neighborhoods, with 1 indicating the highest crime rate and 13 the lowest.

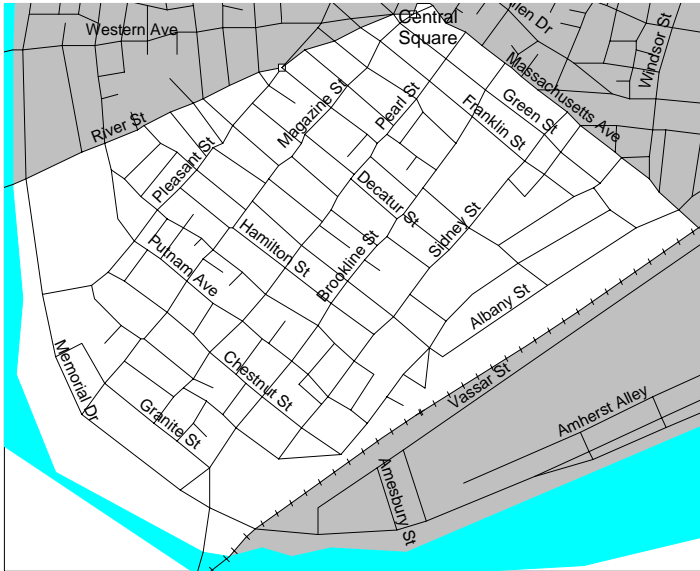
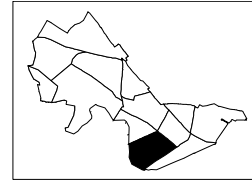
## NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE AND HISTORICAL SYNOPSIS

Area 4 has a less than average residential population among Cambridge neighborhoods, coupled with a series of commercial establishments lining Massachusetts Avenue. Multi-family homes, as well as large apartment buildings, and two public housing developments (Newtowne Court and Washington Elms) distinguish this neighborhood from others.

- In recent years, community crime watches, the Cambridge Housing Authority, and thorough policing by the Cambridge Police Special Investigations Unit have succeeded in preventing many potential drug incidents in the neighborhood's residential areas.
- Area 4 is often a prime target for **housebreaks** due to its high population density in residential areas. In both Mid-Cambridge and Area 4, the Crime Analysis Unit has identified several discernable housebreak patterns that emerge annually.



# NEIGHBORHOOD 5 CAMBRIDGEPORT



**BOUNDARIES:** bordered by Massachusetts Avenue, the B&A railroad, the Charles River, and River Street

**POPULATION:** 10,052 residents  
4,203 households

**AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD INCOME:**  
\$28,466

Neighborhood #5 is encompassed by the patrol boundaries of Car 3 (2 officers) and Car 5R (1 officer). Also included are walking routes 5A, 5B, and Central 12.

## COMPARISON OF 1<sup>ST</sup> Q TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 2000 - 2004

CRIME	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Housebreaks	9	6	26	8	11
Street Robbery	4	5	1	10	9
Auto Theft	21	14	16	10	16
Larceny from MVs	28	25	16	9	28
Malicious Destruction	28	26	36	38	29
Drug Arrests	6	2	2	2	5

### 2004 FIRST QUARTER IN REVIEW

Seven of the incidents of **malicious destruction** occurred during a spree in Mid-February, with most of those incidents on Brookline Place. Four of these were tire slashings. River Street, Rockingham Street and Memorial Dr. were also locations of multiple vandalism reports. • Multiple **larcenies from motor vehicles** were reported on Chestnut Street and on the 700 block of Memorial Drive. In over half the larcenies, suspects broke car windows to gain access. • All of the **housebreaks** were made on weekdays. Four incidents were reported on Pearl Street, all on Mondays and Wednesdays. Most breaks occurred during the daytime hours; nine of the 11 were from 9:00am-4:00pm. • Four of the **drug arrests** took place on Mass Avenue. or Pearl Street. In four of the five arrests, cocaine and prescription drugs were found in the defendant's possession. • **Auto thefts** were most common in the central part of Cambridgeport. Five Hondas were stolen, true to the citywide trend; less common was the theft of three Fords during the first quarter. Nine of the stolen autos have been recovered as of this report.

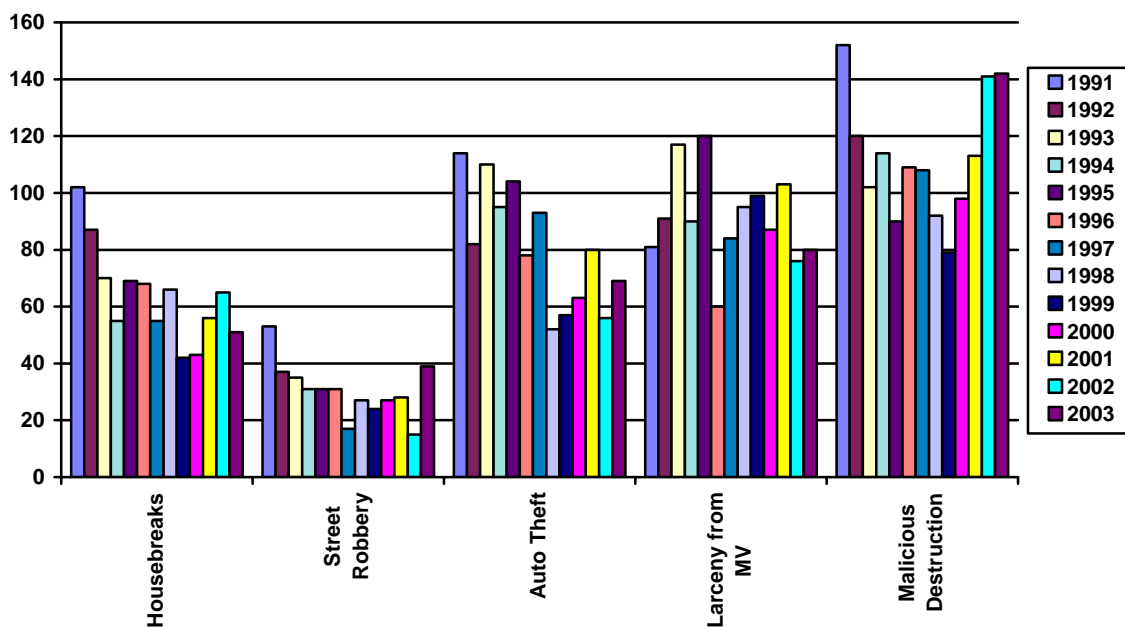
ANNUAL AVERAGE FOR CAMBRIDGEPORT AREA TARGET CRIMES					
Crime	1981-1990	Rank '81-'90*	1991-2002	Rank '91-'02*	Rank 2003*
Housebreaks	156	2	66	2	4
Street Robbery	57	2	31	2	1
Auto Theft	165	1	82	1	1
Larceny from MVs	126	4	93	3	3
Malicious Destruction	106	6	114	2	1

\*Ranks are out of 13 neighborhoods, with 1 indicating the highest crime rate and 13 the lowest.

## NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE AND HISTORICAL SYNOPSIS

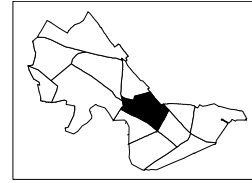
Cambridgeport has the fifth highest residential population of the city's neighborhoods. It is characterized by several large apartment buildings as well as many one, two, and three family houses. The neighborhood is bordered by a string of retail stores, hotels, and restaurants on Memorial Drive, River Street, and Massachusetts Avenue.

- **Street robberies** have long been the most serious crime problem in Cambridgeport. As with Area 4, Cambridgeport's street robberies tend to concentrate near Massachusetts Avenue and Central Square. They are often predatory, and are usually committed after 9:00 at night on weekends.
- **Housebreaks**, usually higher than average in Cambridgeport, have declined significantly since the 1980s. The average number of housebreaks since 1991 is half of the 1980s average. They have declined another 30% since 1991. Cambridgeport's housebreak rate can be attributed to its large, densely packed residential population.
- Cambridgeport has continually experienced the highest rate of **auto theft** since the 1980s. The 1999 Camry Auto Theft pattern helped to displace Cambridgeport's number one ranking by setting East Cambridge and Area 4 as the top two.
- **Larceny from motor vehicles** usually registers high in Cambridgeport.
- The homeless shelter on Albany Street is often a scene for **street robbery** and **aggravated assault** between its residents.



# NEIGHBORHOOD 6

## MID-CAMBRIDGE



**BOUNDARIES:** bordered by Massachusetts Avenue, Prospect Street, Hampshire Street, the Somerville border, Kirkland Street, Quincy Street, and Cambridge Street.

**POPULATION:** 13,285 residents  
5,989 households

**AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD INCOME:**  
\$37,075

Neighborhood #6 is encompassed in the patrol boundaries of Car 2 (2 officers) and 6R (1 officer). It also includes walking routes 6A, 6B, 6C, and Harvard 15.

### COMPARISON OF 1<sup>ST</sup> Q TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 1999 - 2004

CRIME	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Housebreaks	11	23	26	12	17
Street Robbery	6	4	2	4	3
Auto Theft	9	9	4	8	11
Larceny from MVs	16	36	29	12	10
Malicious Destruction	16	17	18	14	15
Drug Arrests	5	4	0	2	1

### 2004 FIRST QUARTER IN REVIEW

Ten of Mid-Cambridge's eleven **auto thefts** occurred in February and March. The lone January incident was the theft of a scooter from a Mass Avenue business. It is worth noting that three of the autos stolen in this neighborhood were Acura Integras, and only one Honda was stolen. • The **drug arrest** was made on Trowbridge Street when officers witnessed the defendant publicly smoking marijuana. • All three of the **street robberies** happened on either Mass Avenue or Dana Street, including one that unfolded at the intersection of those streets. In only one robbery was a weapon (a handgun) shown, although it was implied in another. That robbery resulted in the arrest of three defendants who were positively identified by the victim. • Most of the neighborhood's **malicious destruction** activity happened on Cambridge, Prospect and Trowbridge Streets. Two of the Trowbridge Street incidents were tire slashings, and two of the Prospect Street incidents were pinstriping. • Six of the **housebreaks** occurred on the 200-300 blocks of Harvard Street. In January, a suspect used a crowbar to pry open the doors of several apartments on this street and remove laptops and other electronic items. Multiple incidents also occurred on Magnolia and Lee Streets. • No patterns emerged out of the ten **larcenies from**



**motor vehicles** in Mid-Cambridge. CD's, briefcases and cell phones were the most commonly targeted items.

ANNUAL AVERAGE FOR MID-CAMBRIDGE AREA TARGET CRIMES					
Crime	1981-1990	Rank '81-'90*	1991-2002	Rank '91-'02*	Rank 2003*
Housebreaks	226	1	102	1	1
Street Robbery	49	3	18	5	6
Auto Theft	147	4	65	5	5
Larceny from MVs	198	1	106	1	2
Malicious Destruction	149	1	106	5	5

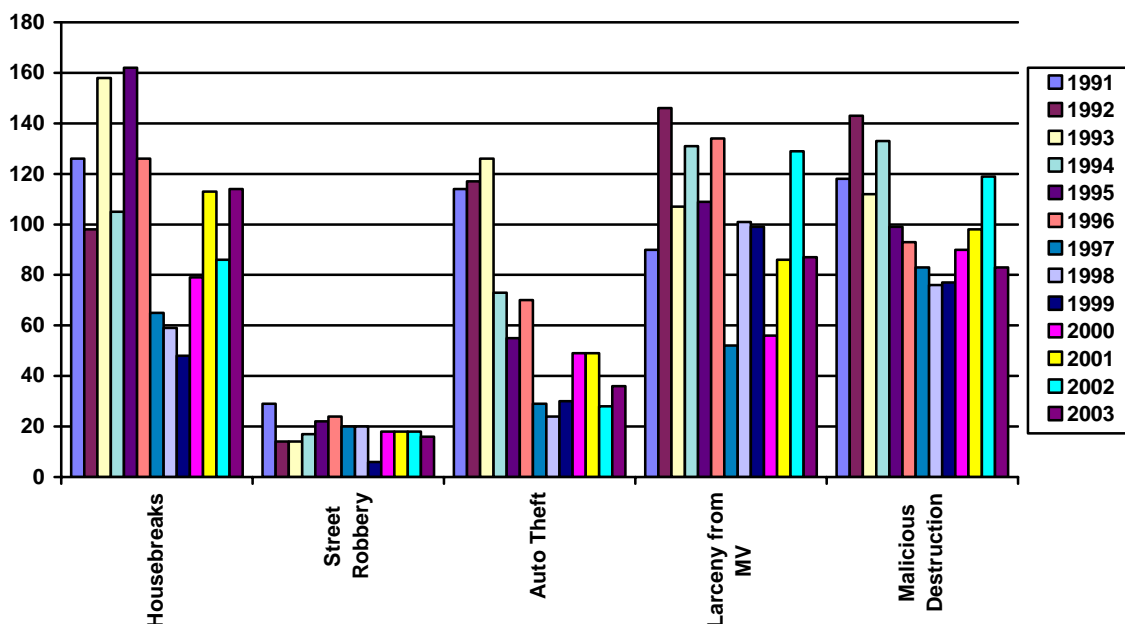
\*Ranks are out of 13 neighborhoods, with 1 indicating the highest crime rate and 13 the lowest.

## NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE AND HISTORICAL SYNOPSIS

Mid-Cambridge is a busy neighborhood. In addition to the highest population of any neighborhood in Cambridge, Mid-Cambridge also has the city's largest high school (Cambridge Rindge & Latin), the Jackson Gardens residential complex, a good portion of Harvard University, and our own City Hall. It is bordered by the major thoroughways of Massachusetts Avenue, Prospect Street, and Cambridge Street, and three of the city's five busiest squares (Central, Harvard, and Inman) occupy its corners.

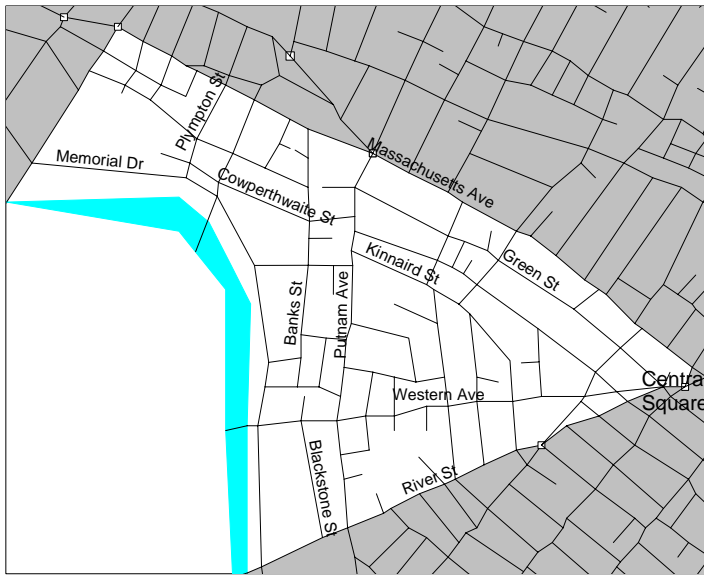
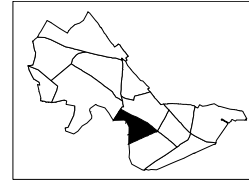
Because of the enormous number of people living, working, shopping, and going to school within its borders, Mid-Cambridge tends to have a higher than average rate for several crimes. *Harvard University, which has its own police department, patrols Harvard property in the western part of the neighborhood. Our statistics do not reflect most incidents that occur on Harvard University property.*

- **Residential Burglary** is naturally highest in a neighborhood with the largest number of residences. Though the rate of this crime has been cut in half since the 1980s, it still remains a serious problem. The largest clusters appear on Harvard Street between Prospect and Lee Streets, on Broadway between Lee and Ellery Streets, around the Massachusetts Avenue/Hancock Street intersection, on the lower half of Trowbridge Street, and on Lee Street. Mid-Cambridge also ranks high in **larceny from motor vehicles** and the related crimes of **auto theft** and **malicious destruction**. The Cambridge Police Department strives to reduce both crimes through preventive patrol efforts, "Park and Walks," and priority investigation.
- **Street robbery** is surprisingly low in Mid-Cambridge given its population. Most of the incidents that do occur happen on Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge Street, and in Inman Square.
- The high amount of pedestrian traffic on Massachusetts Avenue leads to a large number of **bicycle thefts** each year, particularly in or near Harvard Square.



# NEIGHBORHOOD 7

## RIVERSIDE



**BOUNDARIES:** bordered by Massachusetts Avenue, River Street, the Charles River, and JFK Street

**POPULATION:** 11,201 residents  
3,341 households

**AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD INCOME:**  
\$27,415

Neighborhood #7 is encompassed within the patrol boundaries of Car 3 (2 officer cars) and Cars 6R and 10R (1 officer cars). Also included within its boundaries are walking routes 7A and 7B.

### COMPARISON OF 1<sup>ST</sup> Q TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 2000 - 2004

CRIME	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Housebreaks	9	11	14	6	6
Street Robbery	2	4	0	6	8
Auto Theft	8	12	10	2	1
Larceny from MVs	5	11	8	2	6
Malicious Destruction	17	21	20	13	10
Drug Arrests	0	1	5	1	3

#### 2004 FIRST QUARTER IN REVIEW

Two of the six **housebreaks** were at residences on Putnam Avenue, one of which was domestic. In two incidents, doors were reportedly left unlocked. • A small **street robbery** pattern emerged in early March in Riverside, but the majority of incidents in this pattern took place in Cambridgeport. Women walking alone at night were the victims in three robberies. Five of the robberies occurred in January, and weapons were used in three of the incidents (a knife in two and a gun in one). In two of the other incidents, homeless persons are suspected. • The sole **auto theft** in the neighborhood targeted a Ford van that had \$20,000 in tools in the back. This crime has dramatically decreased in Riverside over the last three years; down from an average of 11 incidents in 2001-2002. • Marijuana was involved in all three of the **drug arrests**. Each defendant arrested was charged with possession with intent to distribute. • Stereo equipment and CD's were the items most commonly targeted in the six **larcenies from motor vehicles**. Four of the incidents occurred on Mass Ave., including a small spree at 872 Mass Avenue in late January. • There were three reports of tagging among the ten incidents of **malicious destruction**. One of these taggers, a teen male, was arrested. A small spree occurred in February, in which a suspect smashed the windows of two businesses along Mass Avenue. Another arrest occurred when a man punched the front lobby desk window of the police department. The ten incidents of vandalism represents a notable decrease in this crime for the Riverside neighborhood.

ANNUAL AVERAGE FOR RIVERSIDE AREA TARGET CRIMES					
Crime	1981-1990	Rank '81-'90*	1991-2002	Rank '91-'02*	Rank 2003*
Housebreaks	83	7	44	6	7
Street Robbery	34	4	17	6	4
Auto Theft	92	9	40	9	6
Larceny from MVs	87	7	46	8	9
Malicious Destruction	78	9	76	8	7

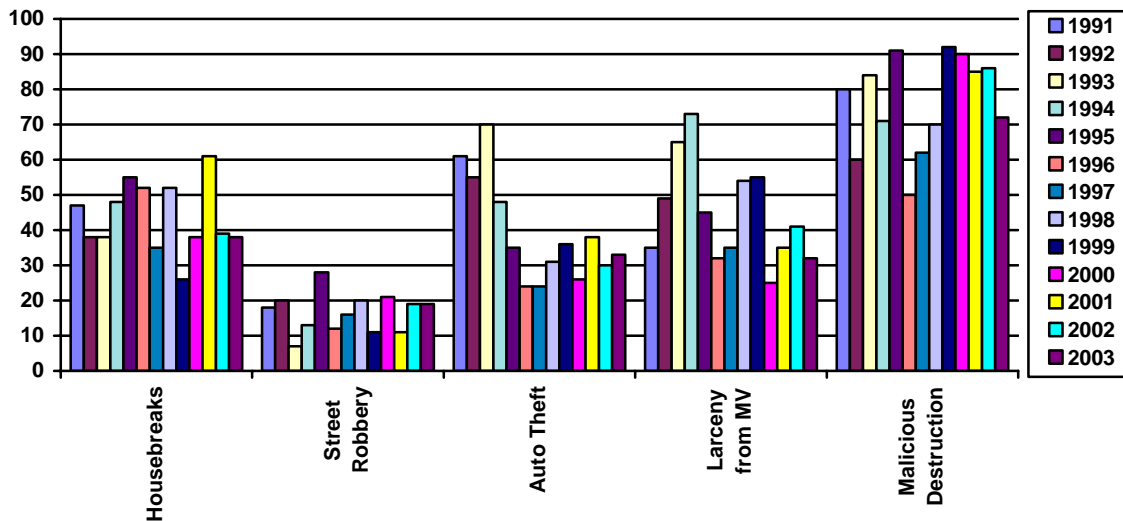
\*Ranks are out of 13 neighborhoods, with 1 indicating the highest crime rate and 13 the lowest.

## NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE AND HISTORICAL SYNOPSIS

Riverside has the fourth highest population in the city, but it ranks well below the average for almost all index crimes. Along with its 10,000 residents, Riverside has two housing developments (Putnam Gardens and the River-Howard homes), two major parks (Hoyt Field and Riverside Press Park), and many commercial establishments along Massachusetts Avenue, River Street, and Western Avenue. Several Harvard University dormitories and other properties occupy the northwestern quarter. Riverside's borders also encompass the United States Post Office and the Cambridge Police Department headquarters.

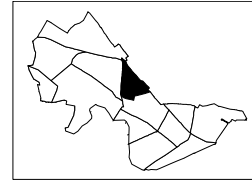
*Harvard University, which has its own police department, patrols Harvard property in the northwestern part of the neighborhood. Our statistics do not reflect most incidents that occur on university property.*

- Most of the **malicious destruction** vandalism targets motor vehicles. Occasional patterns of this crime over long holiday weekends have been a problem in the past.
- **Street robberies** are low for a neighborhood of Riverside's population, but they remain a pressing problem. Most of these incidents are on Western Avenue. Riverside has an exceptionally low **housebreak** rate for its size; a few clusters appear on Franklin and Kinnaird Streets, and at Putnam Gardens.
- Hoyt Field, the site of a murder in the summer of 1997, has long been considered a **robbery** and **narcotics** hotspot.
- The only neighborhoods with lower **auto theft** and **larceny from motor vehicles** totals have less than half of Riverside's population.



# NEIGHBORHOOD 8

## AGASSIZ



**BOUNDARIES:** bounded by Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge Street, Quincy Street, Kirkland Street, and the Somerville border

**POPULATION:** 5,241 residents  
1,891 households

**AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD INCOME:**  
\$36,853

Neighborhood #8 is encompassed by the patrol boundaries of Car 5 (2 officers) and Car 9R (1 officer). It is also covered by walking routes 8A, 8B, and 8C.

### COMPARISON OF 1<sup>ST</sup> Q TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 2000 - 2004

CRIME	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Housebreaks	5	0	13	2	8
Street Robbery	0	1	1	0	0
Auto Theft	5	2	3	4	0
Larceny from MVs	4	6	8	3	4
Malicious Destruction	8	4	2	3	1
Drug Arrests	0	0	1	0	0

### 2004 FIRST QUARTER IN REVIEW

The lone incident of **malicious destruction of property** occurred when the side mirror was ripped off an Acura parked on Mass Avenue. • No incidents of **auto theft** were reported in this neighborhood during the first quarter. • A spree on a single day in early March at 61 Garfield Street. accounted for five of Agassiz's eight **housebreaks**. Laptops and cash were the items most commonly targeted in this spree. The rear doors were found pried open in most of these breaks, and most of the apartments were ransacked. Large amounts of property were removed from all of the apartments but one, in which the suspect or suspects merely stole a Vanilla Coke from the refrigerator, drank it, and threw it in the trash. Also, two incidents were also reported at Oxford St. residences. • There were zero **drug arrests** in Agassiz during the first quarter. • The first quarter saw zero **street robberies** in Agassiz. • Two of the **larcenies from motor vehicles** happened on Sacramento Street. Also, the radiator of a Chevy Blazer was stolen while the auto was parked on Oxford Street.

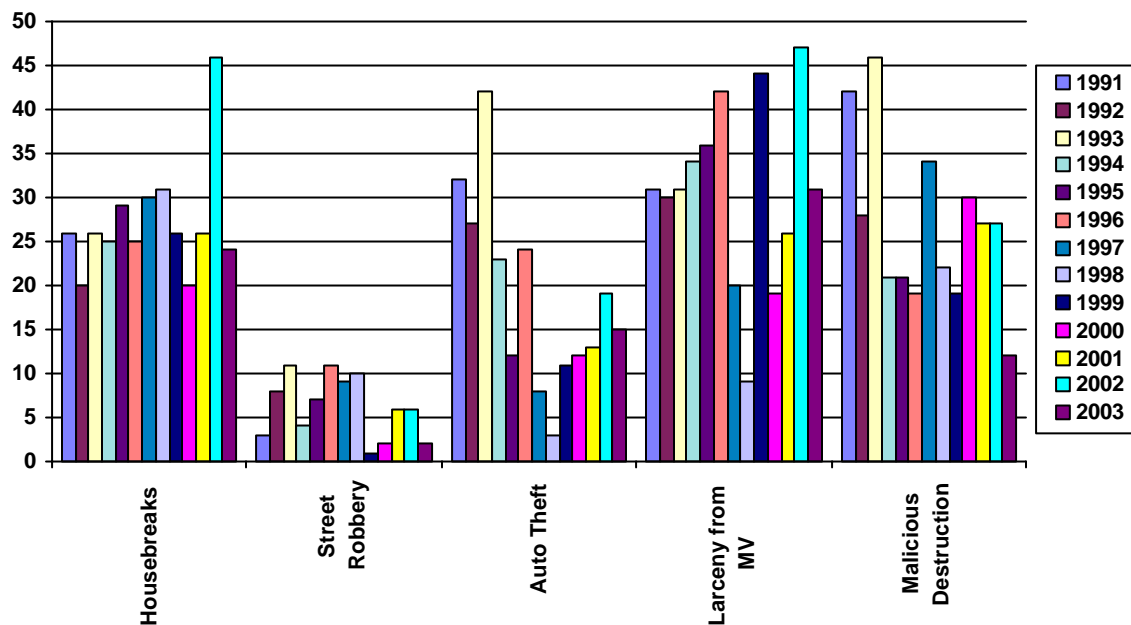
ANNUAL AVERAGE FOR AGASSIZ AREA TARGET CRIMES					
Crime	1981-1990	Rank '81-'90*	1991-2002	Rank '91-'02*	Rank 2003*
Housebreaks	67	8	27	10	9
Street Robbery	11	9	6	10	12
Auto Theft	45	12	19	11	10
Larceny from MVs	47	11	30	11	10
Malicious Destruction	45	11	30	10	13

\*Ranks are out of 13 neighborhoods, with 1 indicating the highest crime rate and 13 the lowest.

## NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE AND HISTORICAL SYNOPSIS

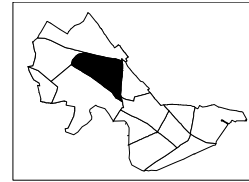
Over half of the Agassiz neighborhood is occupied by Harvard University and Lesley College. The rest of the residential population is concentrated primarily in a triangle in the northern section of the neighborhood, capped by bustling Porter Square. A number of businesses line Massachusetts Avenue on Agassiz's west border. *Harvard University, which has its own police department, patrols Harvard property in the southern part of the neighborhood. Our statistics do not reflect most incidents that occur on Harvard University property.*

- Agassiz has a significantly lower than average rate for almost every measured crime. Unlike some other neighborhoods, only one of its borders is defined by a major, heavily trafficked avenue. Agassiz ranks as the fourth lowest among Cambridge neighborhoods for **auto theft**, and has the lowest # of **malicious destruction** in the City.
- Juveniles entering the neighborhood from Somerville were suspected in a pattern of **street robberies** in 1996 and 1997; such patterns arise every few years, usually clustered at the intersections of Massachusetts Avenue and Wendell Street or Oxford Avenue and Sacramento Street. These occasional patterns generally occur in the late night on weekends.
- Somerville juveniles have also been associated with occasional tire slashings on Forest Street and Massachusetts Avenue. The **malicious destruction** statistics reflect incidents of spray-painting at Agassiz School.



# NEIGHBORHOOD 9

## PEABODY



**BOUNDARIES:** bordered by the B&M Railroad, Concord Avenue, Garden Street, and Massachusetts Avenue

**POPULATION:** 11,794 residents  
5,208 households

**AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD INCOME:**  
\$36,608

Neighborhood #9 is encompassed by Car 5 (2 officers) and Car 9R (1 officer). It also includes walking routes 9A, 9B, 9C, and 9D.

### COMPARISON OF 1<sup>ST</sup> Q TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 2000 - 2004

CRIME	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Housebreaks	8	2	16	9	15
Street Robbery	0	1	0	6	3
Auto Theft	12	13	4	4	8
Larceny from MVs	11	12	4	6	17
Malicious Destruction	10	19	25	10	20
Drug Arrests	0	3	0	0	2

### 2004 FIRST QUARTER IN REVIEW

**Housebreaks** increased in the first quarter of 2004 in comparison to 2003. Of the fifteen reported housebreaks, four were attempts in which entry was not gained into the residence. There were two dominant days for breaks, Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Breaks on Wednesdays took place before noon, while Tuesday incidents were happening after 12PM and around 5PM. Property targeted for theft primarily included jewelry and expensive electronics, and in two of the successful breaks nothing was taken. In five of the incidents entry was gained or attempted through a window. There was one housebreak arrest, but it was of a domestic nature. • All three **street robberies** appear to have been perpetrated by the same group of three to five males, who approached victims during the evening, with a large knife, demanding money. • Six of the eight reported **auto theft** vehicles have been recovered. Two possibly related incidents involved the theft of two Honda Accords from Field Street. • Nearly half of the reported **larcenies from motor vehicle** took place in March. These incidents concentrated around Wood and Walden Streets, where smashed rear vent windows were the mode of entry and various auto parts, including batteries and tires were the main targets of theft. • Several of the **malicious destruction of property** incidents can be attributed to an ongoing graffiti problem at a business on Richdale Avenue. There was no additional pattern to the vandalism, other than the usual patterns of car damage on weekends. • Both of the **drug arrests** involved young adults smoking marijuana in visible locations.

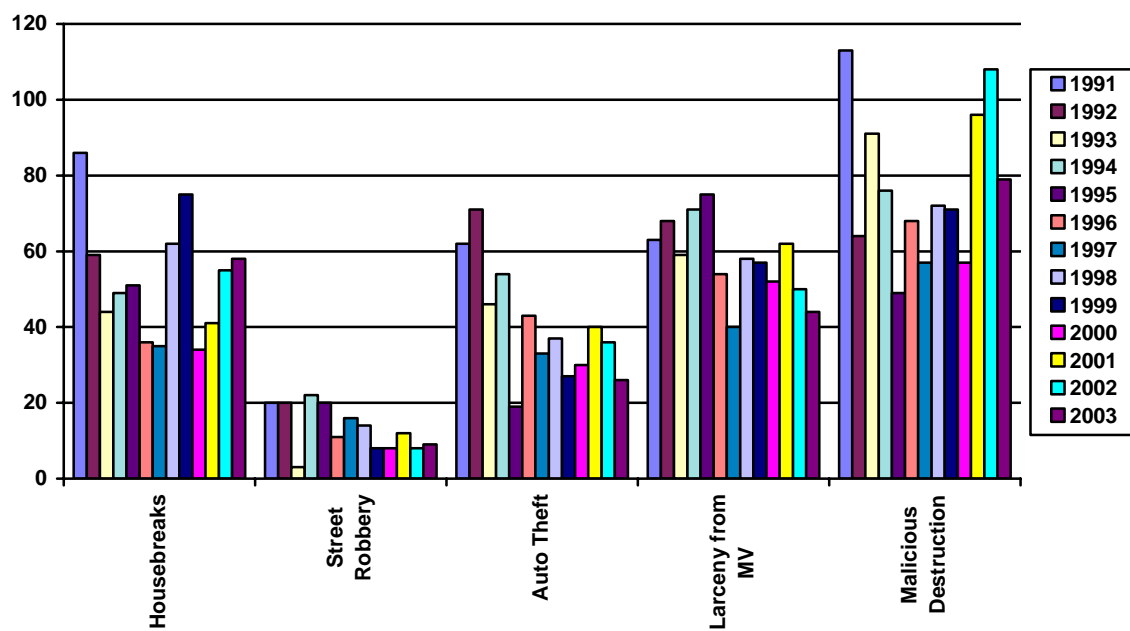
ANNUAL AVERAGE FOR PEABODY AREA TARGET CRIMES					
<i>Crime</i>	<i>1981-1990</i>	<i>Rank '81-'90*</i>	<i>1991-2002</i>	<i>Rank '91-'02*</i>	<i>Rank 2003*</i>
Housebreaks	150	3	52	5	3
Street Robbery	21	6	13	8	7
Auto Theft	94	8	42	8	9
Larceny from MVs	74	8	64	6	7
Malicious Destruction	135	2	78	7	6

\*Ranks are out of 13 neighborhoods, with 1 indicating the highest crime rate and 13 the lowest.

## NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE AND HISTORICAL SYNOPSIS

Peabody has the second highest population in the city, yet most of its crimes are at or below the city's average. The neighborhood's residents include several large apartment complexes, a public housing development (Lincoln Way) and hundreds of single and double family houses. Peabody boasts two of the biggest public parks in the city: Cambridge Common and Danehy Park. Also contained within its borders is Radcliffe College. Large commercial establishments mark Massachusetts Avenue and Walden Square Road.

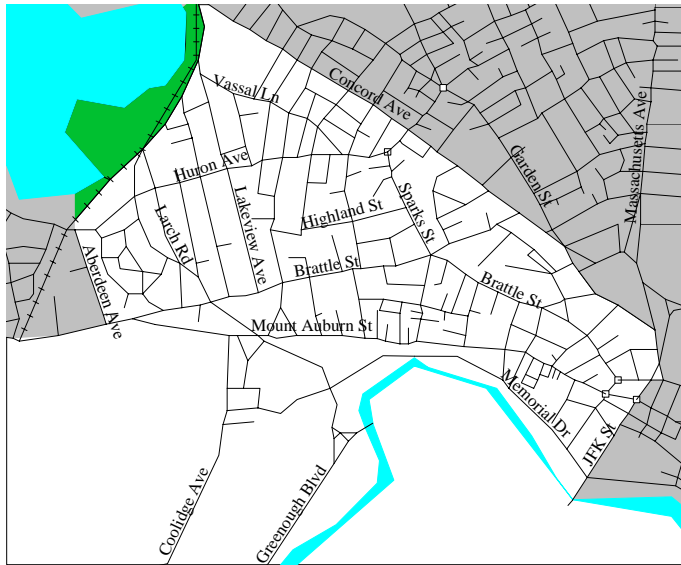
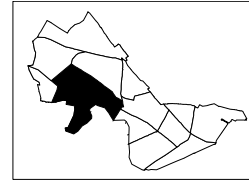
- Cambridge Common has traditionally experienced after-dark crimes ranging from **public drinking** and **drug use** to **robbery** to **sexual assault**. Increased preventive patrol has diminished such occurrences in recent years.
- Summer **housebreak** patterns sometimes plague Richdale Avenue and Upland Road. This year, clusters returned to that region, though the crime has radically declined in other sections of the neighborhood.
- **Auto theft** and **larceny from motor vehicles**, though low in this neighborhood, show concentrations on Richdale Avenue and in the triangle formed by Massachusetts Avenue, Upland Road, and Avon Street.
- Drug activity and juvenile crime have long been concerns in the Walden Square area.





# NEIGHBORHOOD 10

## WEST CAMBRIDGE



**BOUNDARIES:** bounded by the Charles River, JFK Street, Garden Street, Concord Avenue, Fresh Pond, Aberdeen Avenue, and the Watertown line

**POPULATION:** 8,266 residents  
3,887 households

**AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD INCOME:**  
\$54,656

Neighborhood #10 is encompassed by the patrol boundaries of Car 4 (2 officers) and Cars 10R and 13R (1 officer cars). It also includes walking routes 10A, 10B, 10C, and Harvard 16.

### COMPARISON OF 1<sup>ST</sup> Q TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 2000- 2004

CRIME	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Housebreaks	8	4	11	2	7
Street Robbery	1	0	3	2	0
Auto Theft	4	4	4	7	5
Larceny from MVs	11	12	6	8	10
Malicious Destruction	19	20	9	21	10
Drug Arrests	4	1	1	1	0

#### 2004 FIRST QUARTER IN REVIEW

There were no **street robberies** or **drug arrests** in West Cambridge during the first quarter of the year. • **Housebreaks** increased significantly from 2003, but did not reach an overall peak in comparison to the past five years. In four of the seven reported housebreaks there were multiple apartments targeted in a single building during noon hours. This took place on Story Street and Craigie Circle. Property stolen in the breaks was predominantly valuable electronics including DVD players and digital cameras, and entry was mostly made by force. • Only two of the five reported **auto theft** vehicles have been recovered. The majority of incidents took place in January, and no pattern of thefts has emerged in this neighborhood. • **Larcenies from motor vehicle** during January and February took place early in the week, while March incidents took place towards the end of the week. However, there was no pattern to the time of the day that the incidents occurred. Three incidents took place on Mount Auburn Street, and two of these involved the theft of car stereos. • Two of the **malicious destruction of property** incidents were of a retributive nature. The remaining incidents included various forms of vandalism of cars and businesses in no temporal or spatial pattern.

## ANNUAL AVERAGE FOR WEST CAMBRIDGE AREA TARGET CRIMES

Crime	1981-1990	Rank '81-'90*	1991-2002	Rank '91-'02*	Rank 2003*
Housebreaks	105	4	38	8	5
Street Robbery	18	7	12	9	8
Auto Theft	105	6	39	10	8
Larceny from MVs	134	3	65	5	5
Malicious Destruction	92	8	75	9	8

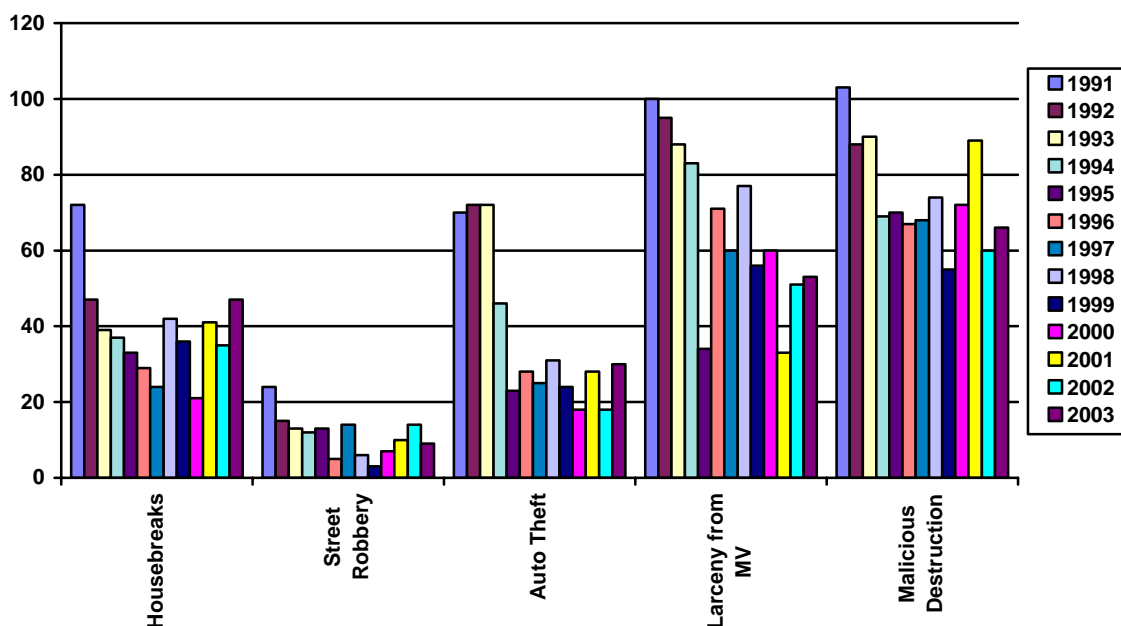
\*Ranks are out of 13 neighborhoods, with 1 indicating the highest crime rate and 13 the lowest.

## NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE AND HISTORICAL SYNOPSIS

West Cambridge is, geographically, the largest neighborhood in the city. Its east end contains a good portion of Harvard Square, bustling with commercial traffic; its western border is marked by Fresh Pond and Kingsley Park. In between are the beautiful homes of Brattle Street, the expansive Cambridge Cemetery, Mount Auburn Hospital, and half a dozen elementary schools.

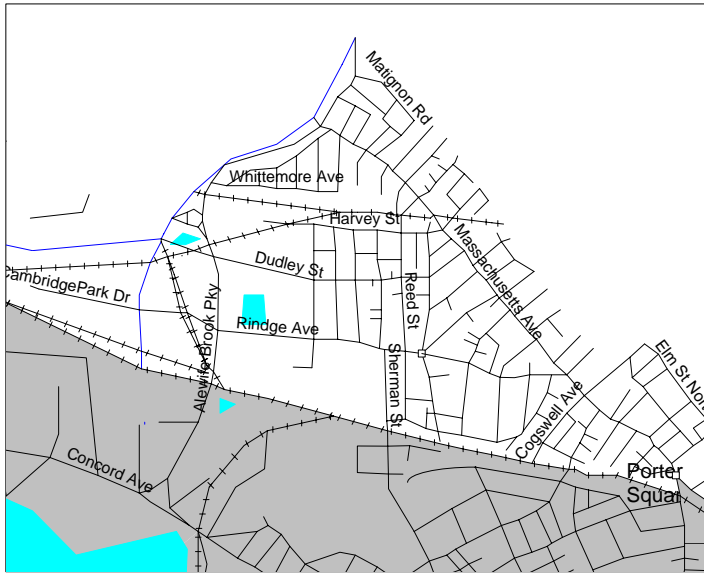
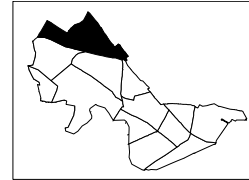
*Harvard University, which has its own police department, patrols Harvard property in the eastern part of the neighborhood. Our statistics do not reflect most incidents that occur on Harvard University property.*

- Almost all of West Cambridge's target crimes are lower than average, its population is slightly higher than average.
- **Larceny from motor vehicles**, is concentrated in the area bordered by Brattle and Mount Auburn Street. The incidents occur primarily on weekends, late at night. The related crime of **malicious destruction** registers at average levels.
- **Housebreaks**, once a pressing problem, are on the rise again.
- **Bicycle theft** patterns strike the Harvard Square area each spring and summer. The large number of bicycles parked in the area lead to high levels of theft. **Larcenies from Persons** becomes a problem every spring and summer around the Square and in its many commercial establishments.



# NEIGHBORHOOD 11

## NORTH CAMBRIDGE



**BOUNDARIES:** bordered by the Belmont line, the Arlington Line, the Somerville Line, Porter Square, and the B&M Railroad

**POPULATION:** 10,642 residents  
4,699 households

**AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD INCOME:**  
\$31,516

Neighborhood #11 is encompassed in the patrol boundaries of Car 5 (2 officers) and Car 11R (1 officer). It also includes walking routes 11A, 11B, 11C, and 11D.

### COMPARISON OF 1<sup>ST</sup> Q TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 2000 - 2004

CRIME	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Housebreaks	7	7	19	4	13
Street Robbery	3	1	2	7	1
Auto Theft	11	3	7	7	6
Larceny from MVs	11	9	12	13	13
Malicious Destruction	20	26	19	26	20
Drug Arrests	2	6	2	2	3

### 2004 FIRST QUARTER IN REVIEW

**Housebreaks** were significantly high in the first quarter, with triple the number of incidents from the year prior. However, five of these incidents were attempted housebreaks and one was domestic in nature. Jewelry has been the most targeted property, and a concentration of incidents have taken place during the weekend days. Friday incidents occurred mostly around noon, while Sunday incidents were taking place later in the afternoon, between 3pm and 5pm. • The single **street robbery** indicates a notable decline from last year's seven incidents. The incident was a purse snatching that resulted in the arrest of two men, the one who robbed the victim and another who attempted to help the first to leave. • Of the six reported **auto thefts**, five vehicles have been recovered. While there were two thefts at Jackson Circle and three of the thefts took place on Thursdays, no discernable pattern has emerged. • Many of the **larcenies from motor vehicle** occurred during the late night hours, between 12am and 3am, during various days of the week. In these incidents entry was made by smashing a window. Although there was no significant trend in car breaks, three of the larcenies were of car stereos and equipment. • There was a rash of tire slashing on Dudley and Clay Street on the first day of the year. The majority of **malicious destruction of property** incidents involved various forms of vandalism, mostly done to cars during the weekends • Two of the drug arrests involved the possession of crack, one of which was the result of an investigation by the Special

Investigations Unit. The third arrest was subsequent to a motor vehicle stop, in which the occupants were found in possession of marijuana.

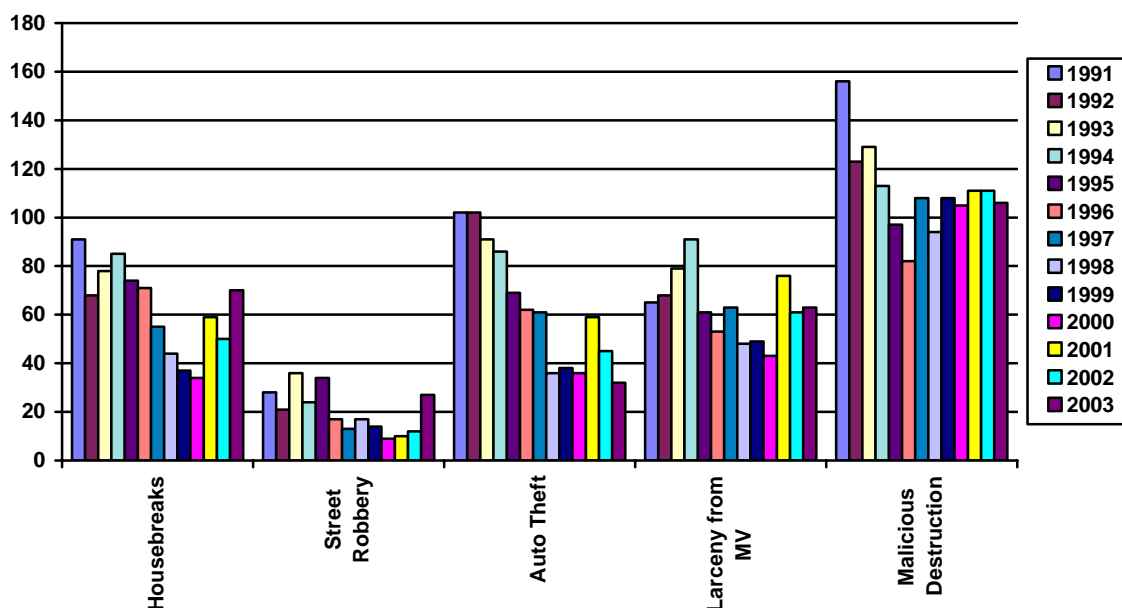
ANNUAL AVERAGE FOR NORTH CAMBRIDGE AREA TARGET CRIMES					
Crime	1981-1990	Rank '81-'90*	1991-2002	Rank '91-'02*	Rank 2003*
Housebreaks	100	6	62	3	2
Street Robbery	30	5	20	3	3
Auto Theft	130	5	66	4	7
Larceny from MVs	105	6	63	7	4
Malicious Destruction	125	4	111	3	3

\*Ranks are out of 13 neighborhoods, with 1 indicating the highest crime rate and 13 the lowest.

## NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE AND HISTORICAL SYNOPSIS

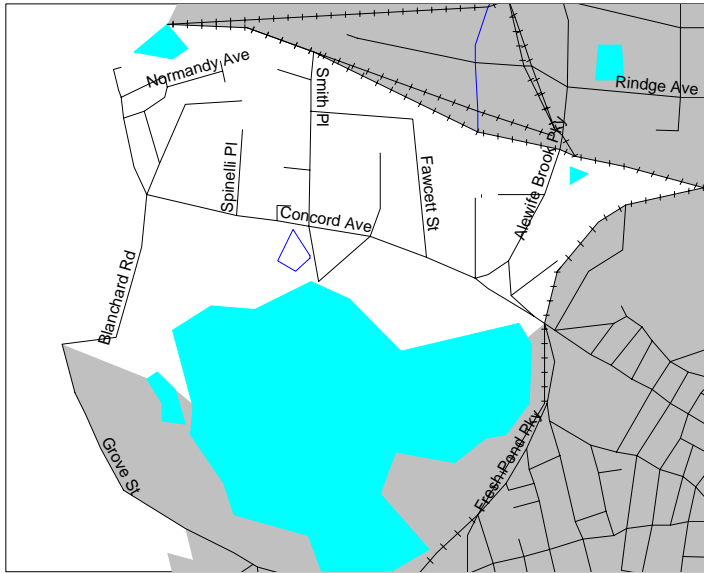
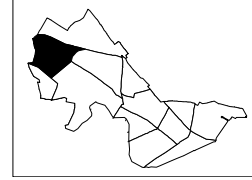
North Cambridge has the third highest population in the city. Its residences include a public housing development (Jefferson Park/Jackson Place) and the towering Fresh Pond Apartments. Within its confines are three major public parks (Rindge Field, Russell Field, and Linear Park), the bustling Porter Square, and the Alewife MBTA Station. Dozens of commercial establishments line Massachusetts Avenue. As with Mid-Cambridge, its elevated crime rate reflects its high residential and commercial population.

- **Housebreak** patterns tend to occur during the summer months. Incidents are scattered quite liberally throughout the neighborhood's residential population. Each year, the Crime Analysis Unit identifies two or three North Cambridge residential burglary patterns. North Cambridge's housebreak totals have decreased since the 1980s, but has steadily risen since 2000.
- **Street robberies** have traditionally been problematic in Russell Field, Linear Park, and around the Alewife MBTA Station. In the most common scenario, local (Cambridge or Somerville) youths will form packs and strong-arm victims walking in these areas late at night. The packs may brandish knives or the occasional handgun. This type of crime diminished in the late 1990's, but has spiked up again in 2003.
- **Auto theft** strikes Rindge Avenue (and particularly the Fresh Pond Apartments) in greater numbers than the rest of the neighborhood. The related crime of **larceny from motor vehicles** is reported less frequently.



# NEIGHBORHOOD 12

## HIGHLANDS



**BOUNDARIES:** bordered by the B&M Railroad, the Belmont line, and Fresh Pond.

**POPULATION:** 673 residents  
281 households

**AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD INCOME:**  
\$37,125

Neighborhood #12 is encompassed within the patrol boundaries of Car 4 (2 officers) and Car 13R (1 officer). Also included is walking route 12C.

### COMPARISON OF 1<sup>ST</sup> Q TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 2000 - 2004

CRIME	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Housebreaks	0	0	0	0	0
Street Robbery	0	0	0	0	0
Auto Theft	4	3	2	1	2
Larceny from MVs	6	3	3	7	2
Malicious Destruction	8	3	5	7	17
Drug Arrests	1	2	1	1	1

#### 2004 FIRST QUARTER IN REVIEW

There have been no **housebreaks or street robberies** in the Highlands thus far. • Of the two reported **auto thefts** only one of the vehicles has been recovered. • Alewife Brook Parkway parking lots have been the setting for most of the car related incidents in the Highlands. Both of the **larcenies from motor vehicle** took place at these, in January. In the first reported incident, unknown suspects gained entry to the victim's vehicle by removing a lock, and stole tools from within. Personal items were taken from an unlocked vehicle in the second car break. • The abnormally high number of **malicious destruction of property** incidents is explained by a rash of tire slashings. 11 total, in the Fresh Pond Mall parking lot on the first of the year. Multiple taggings have also been reported at the Wyeth building. The remainder of the vandalism activity involves broken windows and other car damage.

ANNUAL AVERAGE FOR HIGHLANDS AREA TARGET CRIMES					
Crime	1981-1990	Rank '81-'90*	1991-2002	Rank '91-'02*	Rank 2003*
Housebreaks	6	13	3	13	12
Street Robbery	8	12	3	13	13
Auto Theft	54	11	14	12	13
Larceny from MVs	38	12	21	12	12
Malicious Destruction	28	12	25	12	10

\*Ranks are out of 13 neighborhoods, with 1 indicating the highest crime rate and 13 the lowest.

## NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE AND HISTORICAL SYNOPSIS

Cambridge Highlands' minuscule population makes for very little residential criminal activity in the neighborhood. In addition to 281 households, the Highlands' border encompasses the Fresh Pond Mall, the northern part of Fresh Pond, and a number of warehouses. Most crime here is commercial, and is covered in the business district profiles.

- Cambridge Highlands vies with Strawberry Hill for the lowest index crime totals in the city. For nearly all index crimes this decade, it has ranked twelfth or thirteenth out of the 13 neighborhoods.
- Auto theft, larceny from motor vehicles, and malicious destruction** have occasionally become a problem in the Fresh Pond Mall and Fresh Pond Cinema parking lot. Mall security, however, has drastically reduced such incidents in recent years—almost to the point of statistical insignificance. Small patterns of automobile-related crimes have been known to emerge on Smith Place and Mooney Street.
- Larcenies from persons** exhibits some patterns around the Fresh Pond Mall and the Fresh Pond Cinema, where pocketpickers use the darkness of the theater to conceal their crimes.

